

ORWELL AT 27b

By DAVID IRELAND

George Orwell spent some two years at 27b Canonbury Square between September 1944 and April 1947 (when not on Jura writing *Nineteen Eighty-Four* or in Germany, war-reporting), a period marked by the low-point of the sudden unexpected death of his first wife Eileen in March 1945, the highs of his enormous success with *Animal Farm* and of his pride in his adopted son Richard, and his farcical wooing of several far younger women, replacements for Eileen both as wife and mother.

His flat (telephone number: CAN 3751, rent around £200 a year) had a breakfast room, small workroom, two bedrooms and a good-sized living-room, but was up on the third floor, 'a climb which always left George wheezing and breathless'. While both George and Eileen ('I like the Canonbury flat') were fond of 27b, the flat was often far from salubrious ('utter

cheerlessness', 'water coming through the roof in 12 places') and biographers were distinctly sniffy about contemporary Canonbury Square: 'in those days rather down-at-heel, even slummy ... a somewhat gloomy enclave of rundown, leprous three-storey tenements'.

'Slummy' or not, it was here that Orwell enjoyed the greatest literary triumph of his lifetime, with *Animal Farm*, first published in Britain on 17 August 1945, and then in New York in August 1946, becoming there a 'Book-of-the-Month'. Orwell's annual earnings soared, £597 12s overall in 1944, but US royalties alone of £3433 14s 12d in 1946. A radio adaptation of *Animal Farm* ('a ghastly difficult job'), aired and well received on the Third Programme on 14 January 1947, was celebrated by Orwell with a party at 27b. 'Hackwork' – 'I have to do on average four articles a week and have hardly any energy left for serious work' – meant that only the first 12 pages of *Nineteen Eighty-Four* were written in Canonbury, the vast bulk on Jura.

If Orwell struggled to find an appetite for 'serious work' at 27b, the same cannot be said for food, especially at High Tea, the key meal of his day. Friend Paul Potts described in Pickwickian style 'Gentlemen's Relish – next to it stood the Cooper's Oxford marmalade pot – and various jams, kippers, crumpets and toast... he thought in terms of vintage tea and had the same attitude to bubble and squeak as a Frenchman has to Camembert'. Orwell's tobacco, 'Nosegay Black Shag', rather overwhelms this culinary atmosphere.

While Orwell's marriage to Eileen was 'not perfect', according to Potts, her death – from cardiac failure under anaesthetic, aged 39 – undoubtedly affected Orwell badly, though he displayed very British reserve. Notwithstanding, or perhaps as a result,

following her death, Orwell made a series of disastrous approaches to generally far younger women in 1945-6, among them Celia Paget, near neighbour Anne Popham, (the three-years-older) Brenda Salkeld and, in particular, to who would become his second wife, then Sonia Brownell. It wasn't a very auspicious start with Sonia – while (according to Arthur Koestler) she was 'a very primitive animal in her sexual demands', she slept with him at 27b, so writes Hilary Spurling, 'more for his sake than hers'.

In June 1944, Orwell and Eileen adopted their son, Richard Blair, now patron of the Orwell Society, who graced the unveiling of a new 27b plaque for his father in May 2016. The event, jointly hosted by the Canonbury Society and the Islington Local History Centre, was attended by many local residents, who enjoyed drinks afterwards generously provided by the Canonbury Tavern. Our photo was taken near the entrance to 27b in Alwyne Villas by the anarchist Vernon Richards in 1945. Our thanks to Orwell's biographers and Peter Davison.



Orwell with his son Richard © Vernon Richards Estate, George Orwell Archive, UCL Special Collections.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Page 2

From your Chairman
The University of Enjoyment

Page 3

Planning News
Estorick Collection

Page 4

Safe Houses I Have Known
Local Listings

Page 5

Pandemonium of Parakeets

Page 6

A Year on the New River

Page 7

Local Charities

Page 8

Events
Join the Canonbury Society

FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

By PHILIP WALKER

In commenting on Islington Council's Scope of Review for its new Local Plan, it is interesting to see how priorities have changed in the last five years. There is now much more concern and emphasis over delivering a sustainable built environment by pushing for more energy-efficient domestic, commercial and industrial buildings with the ultimate aim of zero carbon emissions. However, with the significant uptake in the use of Uber taxis and local deliveries more than outpacing the reduction in the ownership and use of private cars in the borough, traffic congestion remains a major issue.

Other concerns, following wide use of 'permitted development rights' in converting buildings (particularly offices) to residential, are the preservation and encouragement of local businesses and employment-generating buildings. Remarkably, there is less resistance over car-free development but perhaps that is not surprising given the public's

enthusiastic embrace of the new London-wide policies encouraging Londoners to engage in more walking and cycling and making greater use of public transport.

One huge issue which affects us all is unaffordable 'affordable' rental values in London and in particular Islington and Canonbury. With demand exceeding supply many times over, there is no easy solution. I do commend the council's scoping document as an interesting read into the issues which are likely to influence and shape our existence here over the next 10–15 years. <https://www.islington.gov.uk/consultations/local-plan-scope-of-the-review>

Once again, we enjoyed two good parties. Our heart-felt thanks go to our wonderful hosts respectively George Mackintosh and Eri for our summer party and Nina Konrad and Jerry Norton for our winter party.



THE UNIVERSITY OF ENJOYMENT IU3A IN CANONBURY

By GILL HOPKINS

For years I imagined that the University of the Third Age was a sort of Birkbeck and City Lit organisation somewhere in London. Now I know that there are Universities of the Third Age worldwide and in Britain there are more than a thousand.

With the advent of our own Islington University of the Third Age my perception changed. It should be renamed the Islington University of Enjoyment! Launched in October 2013, it now has over 500 members with 50 activities from which to choose. There are no entry qualifications, no exams and all activities are voluntarily run by participants throughout the borough.

Interest groups meet in a variety of Islington locations – homes, pubs and cafés. Many Canonbury residents enjoy hosting activities. Five language conversation groups each led by a native speaker (an Italian, three French,

a German and a Spanish) meet locally, as do two Current Affairs groups coordinated by a Canonbury resident, a Bridge group, ten book clubs (including two French, a Science fiction and a short story one), a History in a Global Context and a Craft group.

Recently the History group has focused on the 17th century. Talks have included Rubens, Opera and the jeweller/traveller Sir John Chardin.

The Current Affairs group welcomes participants of all political persuasions. This leads to lively and heated debates.

I belong to a French and also to a Spanish conversation group. Again I imagined stilted dialogues about the weather and local restaurants. Not a bit of it – the French participants have discussed the French Revolution, the village of Gerberoy, the garden designer André Le Notre, and regional French cuisine

amongst many varied topics. Last week during a lively and amusing morning I learnt the Spanish word for a ship's magazine – *una santabárbara* and for fox mange – *la tiña*. Not the most essential words but interesting.

To find out more about our University of Enjoyment which includes monthly lectures, coffee mornings, and a variety of walks, theatre visits and activities go to the website <http://www.islingtonu3a.org/>



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

PLANNING NEWS:

By JAMES COATES,
JACK LAMBERT
AND PHILIP WALKER

During the year, we commented on 12 planning and tree applications, out of about 45 cases which we reviewed. Most of these were for extensions to existing houses. We have focused on proposals for basements and extensions that encroach unduly on gardens, or applications that endanger Canonbury's attractive large mature trees. The Council have in most cases agreed with our views.

TfL seems to have largely disregarded the objections made last year by us and other Islington amenity societies to its proposals for Highbury Corner, saying that most respondents favoured its plans. We shall watch out for renewed proposals when the current bridge replacement works are completed.

We have commented on the scoping document for the Local Plan, and will comment on the actual draft Local Plan. We urge Canonbury residents to take part in the related public consultation to be held this summer.

In the last year, we have responded with comments on the Council's proposed Development Viability Protocol, Impact Assessment Review, Community Review and Urban Design Guide. We have also had increasing contact with Islington Council Enforcement Officers to ensure that any conditions for planning consent are adhered to in the construction phases.

Harley Sherlock's old house at 13 Alwyne Place has been demolished, and a new house should be ready for occupation this summer. The applicant had productive discussions with the Society at the design stage; we are happy with the proposed design and the method statement on site management.

PS: DO NOT DISTURB

'The genteel corner of Islington that put N1 on the map of the chattering classes is Canonbury ... this is the Islington of the popular imagination ... leafy street after leafy street of Georgian townhouses and Regency villas, a sea of London stock brick, stucco, fanlights and sash windows, dotted with period street lamps and wrought-iron rails ... Disturb those tree roots/original sash windows at your peril.'

The Sunday Times, 19 March 2017.

THE ESTORICK: LOCAL GALLERY, INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION

By DAVID IRELAND

The Estorick Collection, at 39a Canonbury Square, is often described as 'one of London's best kept secrets', but this description hardly seems justified. After its six-month £600,000 refurb, the gallery has recently been attracting 1,000 visitors a week (more than double the rate of past years), and garners reviews not only in our own *Islington Tribune*, but also the *Observer*, the *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal*.

The gallery has an international reputation – according to Roberta Cremoncini, director since 2001, 'we hold the eight most important pictures on Futurism, if you ever open a book on the subject'. It can also claim strong Italian links, Futurism being 'Italy's most significant contribution to 20th-century European culture', particularly in its 1909-16 pioneering period, but also via the gallery's holdings of important non-Futurists such as Modigliani and Chirico. The Estorick houses both permanent and changing temporary exhibitions (not always Futurism-related).

But the Estorick is also very much a Canonbury story. Michael Estorick, son of Eric and Salome, who started building up the gallery's core collection in the late 1940s, lived locally, and advised buying 39a in 1994. Initially, it must be pointed out and perhaps to our shame, 'Canonbury was not a very happy bunch when we opened in 1998', says Roberta, but 'we now feel quite loved, we're very proud of what we've become in Canonbury, we would like to be discovered more but we're building our identity'.

The Estorick's Education programme is 'part of our ethos', and seems quite disproportionate to the size of the gallery. The gallery welcomes many local schools – Laycock and Canonbury Primaries, North Bridge House, Highbury Grove – and other colleges and universities. The programme is always 'linked to what we do' but involves 'under-5s happy with colours, Year 2s always doing portraits and for an 8-year-old, we're easier to navigate, they're not bewildered by the building as with the Tate, it's less daunting'. Children aside, the gallery has run activities for Arts4Dementia, the Stuart Low Trust (based in Islington, helping people in particular suffering from social isolation or mental distress), the Claremont Project (based at the Angel, working to enrich lives by 'mattering'), Capital A (art workshops for the homeless or excluded) and Age UK.

After the somewhat rocky start, Canonbury now contributes 25-30% of the Estorick's 750 members (N1 and N5 postcodes) – 'we could definitely accommodate more Canonbury members!', says Roberta – and several of the 30 volunteers: 'we're always on the lookout, and need different calibres, for the galleries, the shop, the office, spreading the word'.

Contact www.estorickcollection.com, or ring 0207-704-9522.



New-look Estorick Collection, bright and airy throughout.

'SAFE HOUSES I HAVE KNOWN'

By DAVID IRELAND

The headline words of John Le Carré's Peter Guillam appropriately describe 'the gloomy flat ... this two-room scalphunters' shakedown in Lexham Gardens, smelling of dust and drains'; rather less obviously, Canonbury House. Nonetheless, one of Canonbury House's former occupants, John Addey, breezily claimed back in June 1990 that 'it was the CIA safe house in Europe for ages'.

'Alternative facts' teem through the life and times of Addey. One internet story confidently asserts that in August 1982, Addey helped set up the kidnap of racehorse Shergar, with a down-payment for expenses of £50,000. This was arranged in a meeting at Canonbury House, used 'as a point of interest ... in WW2 by General Eisenhower when he carried on his documented affair with his female driver Kay' (well, possibly to all of that. The internet author is currently serving time).

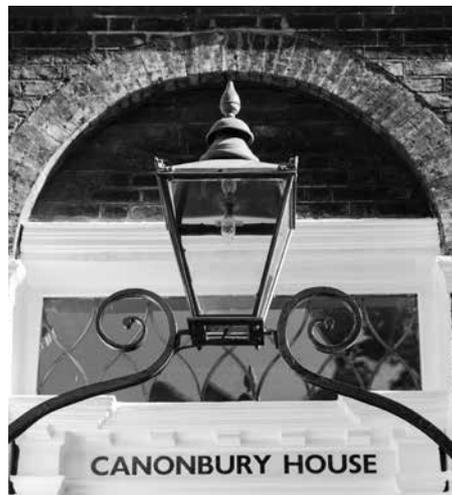
John Addey, in reality, though, *was* larger than life. After putting Canonbury House on the market in 1990 (though he stayed there till his death in the mid-90s), the *Independent* talked of 'the sybaritic style of the caliph of Canonbury'. The *Telegraph* ('Glitz Georgian'), meanwhile, writes 'Addey talks Trump while freshening your champagne' (this was 27 years ago, but plus ça change

and all that). The hallmarks he stamped on Canonbury House included a 'mirror-sided, toffee-brown marble bath with gold-plated water cannon', 'a Victorian student sketch of a nude man', and a sauna on the top floor.

Of the CIA's presence, though, it is hard to find evidence. Francis Mason allegedly lived in the house in the early 1960s, while cultural attaché at the US embassy (sadly not an obvious cover job, though he was certainly involved in Cold War cultural diplomacy). A more promising internet search links 'John Addey' to the Cambridge Circle, but this circle was that of the astrologer John Addey, and does not include Messrs Philby, Maclean, Burgess and Blunt.

For an actual spying connection in the area, we have to look closer to home. Stella Rimington, Director General of MI5 from 1992 to 1996, but with The Security Service from the late 1960s (initially trying to establish how the other Cambridge Circle had been talent-spotted), lived first in Canonbury Grove, in 1970. She then moved to Alwyne Place, and finally, from 1984, to Alwyne Villas (in 'a much smaller house' – since this writer lives opposite the big houses in Alwyne Villas, where Stella was, this seems to be an intelligence assessment to be taken with the same-sized pinch of salt as John Addey's).

Oh, and of course, as everybody knows, before Canonbury Place (the Alwyne Villas bit) became host to North Bridge House School, and before that, to Canonbury Academy in its various incarnations, it was a MI5 training centre (or so reports a one-time resident, who says the budding spies left as discretely as they'd come).



One-time CIA safe house (possibly) © Eléonore de Bonneval

ISLINGTON'S LOCAL LISTINGS: KEY TO THE PAST

By ROSEMARY BROWN

Before, pediments were simply pediments – not swan-necked, open, broken or even segmental. Corbels, crockets and cornices didn't mean much to me; and I certainly had no idea a stall riser was the part of a storefront below the window. Now I have a vocabulary almost worthy of architectural scholar Nikolaus Pevsner. Sir Nikolaus's book *The Buildings of England London & North* was among the many sources I consulted as one of 50 volunteers for the Our Eyes on Islington project reviewing 1,200 locally listed buildings – more than twice as many as in Camden and Hackney.

Canonbury boasts more than 160 locally listed properties – buildings deemed 'heritage assets' by the Council, but not of the statutory listing standards required by Historic England. I investigated 125 properties in the Canonbury Conservation Area for this initiative, run in partnership with Islington Council, Historic England and The Building Exploratory. Islington's Local History Centre was indispensable for research. But this undertaking was less about reading books, and more about reading buildings – from Victorian villas to tucked-away terraces, and pubs transformed into hipster flats.

Always an admirer of Canonbury's heritage, surveying it allowed me to zoom right in – former architectural 'acquaintances' became firm friends as I inspected, described and photographed them over the months. Buildings I once whizzed past on the way to the tube or Overground now command my attention.

- Take the five glorious mid-Victorian terraces adorning Wallace Road (nos 2-28) and its cul de sac – comprised of 27 period houses whose architectural unity endures despite the ravages of time, multiple occupation and war.
- And the charming shop fronts at the top of Canonbury Lane (nos 21, 23 and 25) contributing to an archetypal Victorian shopping parade wrapping around to Upper Street. Number 25, the Four Sisters pub, is named after the four Miss Vincents who kept a coffee and confectionary shop there as early as 1905.
- And 1 Hope Villas with its triumphant Victorian turret and ornate finials, which forms the cornerstone for surrounding Georgian houses where Wallace and St Paul's Road meet.

And the list goes on. You'll find the current one on the Canonbury Society website. The project will culminate in October with a website portraying each of Islington's local listings to celebrate our heritage and ensure the legacy of these buildings is understood and cherished when new developments are proposed and planning decisions are taken.



Hope Villas © Eléonore de Bonneval

PANDEMONIUM OF PARAKEETS:

DAY-TRIPPERS DESCEND ON CANONBURY

By SUSAN MILLERSHIP

Flocks of emerald green parakeets were first spotted over Canonbury a few years ago. They took to the tall leafy trees, lush gardens and the New River which provide an abundant supply of seeds, fruit and flowers. Now parakeets and their shrill shrieks have become part of Canonbury's wildlife.

But where did these exotic newcomers come from and how do they thrive in urban areas such as ours?

London's ringed-neck parakeet, often called rose-ringed parakeets, are the stuff of legend. Some say rock musician Jimi Hendrix released a pair of parakeets in Carnaby Street in the 1960s to introduce psychedelic colours to the capital, others say parakeets flew away from the film set of the *African Queen* in the 1950s. The answer is probably more prosaic - imported pet parakeets either escaped from, or were released into the wild, by their owners. Between 1975 and 2005 nearly 25,000 parakeets were imported to Britain.

The ring-necked parakeet's native habitat stretches from west Africa to the Himalayas. Parakeets found across Britain and Europe come mainly from the colder foothills of the Himalayas, which explains why they can endure our chilly winters!

Regularly, just before sunset, up to 30 parakeets congregate in the branches of a tall tree behind my garden, producing a cacophony of sound. Like clockwork, the raucous squadron takes off and disappears into the dusk, presumably to spend the night roosting on tree branches in their home area. The following day they screech back into the neighbourhood, like aerial bombers on a mission.

Feeding activity peaks in the early morning and late afternoon, with the time between devoted to preening and 'loafing'. They are highly social birds and like feeding in small groups. Canonbury parakeets could easily come from Hampstead Heath or further afield as they will fly more than 15 kilometres a day to good foraging areas. Some may have already made Canonbury their permanent home, avoiding the daily commute and the stigma of being day-trippers in one fell swoop! Previously they were concentrated in Kent and South London but in recent years have colonised North London as well.

During the nesting season parakeet couples move from roosting on branches to nesting in holes, often taking over old woodpecker and starling nest holes in trees. They nest early, from January onwards, but some birds lay eggs as late as June. The Royal Society for the



© Greg Tappenden

Protection of Birds (RSPB) estimate that there are 8,600 breeding pairs in the UK with the parakeet population in London at over 30,000. Females lay up to four eggs, incubating them for three weeks. The young are cared for by both parents, and leave the nest when they are around 1-1/2 months old.

There are strong feelings among ornithologists and London residents about whether the rapidly expanding numbers of parakeets could threaten native bird species such as woodpeckers and starlings. There have been particular concerns raised about competition for nesting holes and food.

The RSPB, however, is not in favour of a cull of parakeets at the moment but is committed, along with the government, to monitoring them as they are the nation's fastest growing bird population.

Life is not all rosy for the parakeets as they have become easy prey to London's growing number of raptors. Peregrine falcons are very partial to a parrot snack. And analysis of owl pellets has shown

that the capital's tawny owls have worked out how to catch them by waiting silently at the top of trees and swooping down on a noisy parakeet as it lands below.

Despite this, love them or loathe them, one thing is for sure, the ring-necked parakeet is here to stay and we will be seeing many more in Canonbury!



© Greg Tappenden

WATERFOWL, FISH AND FOXES ON THE NEW RIVER

By JACK LAMBERT

WILDLIFE

History does seem to repeat itself.

For the third year in a row just one lone mallard in the Douglas Road section hatched eight ducklings and raised all but one to maturity. The parade of ducklings migrating back and forth between the two sections was a delight to visitors large and small. With so many mallards in residence, why she is the only one to breed is anybody's guess.

Moorhens, on the other hand, did the business as usual with six or seven breeding pairs producing countless chicks all along the river, some with second and possibly third, broods.

The first moorhen and her mate made a new nest in just one day, well hidden in her usual place near the round hut, but she was later than last year so sitting began immediately and her first chicks appeared three weeks later. Within days, they were swimming and thus began the daily journey as she herded them to the warm and sunny islands in the morning, then back to the cosy nest in the evening. Commuting without strikes – lucky moorhens.

Moorhens are usually very practical, but last year, one in the Douglas Road section uncharacteristically built her nest adjacent to one of the fountain outlets near the wooden bridge. The water jet suddenly sprang to life, she saw the error of her ways, and moved her nest very quickly.

Alas, this past season there was no sign of the lone male tufted duck with his unique blue beak, but Petra Laidlaw reports that numerous families of tufted ducks now inhabit the ponds in Victoria Park, Hackney. Perhaps our former visitor found a mate there?

A bold heron still makes occasional and random visits, sometimes with an unwelcome escort of mobbing crows. After 19 years this bird may well be a generation on from the original heron that swooped in to catch two fish in front of Princess Alexandra at the Reopening celebrations in June 1998. It is nice to think so.

CARPING ON

The six large carp that the heron didn't catch in 1998 have multiplied over the years and carp can still be seen basking or swimming slowly just below the water surface during warm days, often just south of Willow Bridge. Susan Millership reports that some carp are now also present in the Douglas Road Section – which is a mystery as the two sections of water are completely separate systems.

After a long absence, terrapins – possibly discarded pets – have been reported in the Douglas Road section.

Urban foxes have found the far banks of the river to be a quiet place for their earths and this year they have produced a bumper crop of very cheeky cubs who treat residential gardens as their

private playgrounds. Anyone sitting out for drinks on a warm summer evening must carefully protect any food because the cubs sneak up from behind and try to snatch some supper. Grandchildren delight in using water pistols to squirt the cubs on the nose which sends them off without hurting them.

TREES

The 1953 Herbert Morrison Whitebeam tree that was severely pruned last year to prolong its life has not only survived, but also thrived. It produced new growth with flowers and is now coming into bud again for the coming season. The other Whitebeam tree that was planted nearby last year is now in bud, so when the sad time comes when the original dies, its replacement could be a good size.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

Our three Canonbury Ward councillors have authorised £17,000 of this year's C.I.L. budget to provide better 'step-free' access to and within both sections of the New River Walk.

The temporary restraints carried out to parts of the listed cast iron railings following the 2009 Structural Survey (funded by C.I.L. monies and The Friends of the New River Walk) are still doing their job and will have to remain until money can be found to make a start on the permanent repairs recommended by the survey.



A moorhen on the New River © Andrew Martin



© Eléonore de Bonneval

HAPPY OUTCOMES AT OUR LOCAL CHARITIES

By SARAH STRANG

ISLINGTON GIVING

Bringing Islington together to tackle poverty and inequality

Islington Giving thanks the many Canonbury Society members who enable us to give back to Canonbury. With your collaboration, we can continue to share ideas and resources that help make a difference. Islington Giving's Board has over 1,000 years of collective experience in meeting local need. We bring together 'unusual suspects' – residents, businesses, funders and voluntary organisations to tackle poverty and inequality in their backyard. Our work with the BIG (Businesses for Islington Giving) Alliance leverages business volunteers' expertise to support organisations like Urban Hope. Beyond financial support, you could offer venues for older people, isolated residents and families to meet. Or join an Inside Islington tour, which showcases the difference made by organisations in Canonbury and the surrounding area.

CONTACT

<http://www.islingtongiving.org.uk/>
020 7288 6941
mail@islingtongiving.org.uk



Help on your doorstep

THE MANNA

Providing a supportive community for rough sleepers and marginalised Islington residents.

M came to our day centre when he was sleeping on night buses. He was a regular client and an occasional volunteer. He found an expensive and poorly maintained bedsit several miles away but still took on the regular weekly collection of sandwiches from Pret, growing in confidence and getting to know everyone.

We found him an affordable flat near our day centre, helped him move in and acquire furniture. With this new stability he developed his knowledge of technology and began to fix computers, phones, and all things techy for everyone.

He is now well settled in his new flat and still volunteers twice a week. He now takes on many other tasks for the wider community, including St Stephen's Church.

CONTACT

www.themanna.org.uk/
0207 226 5369
themanna@ststephenscanonbury.org.uk

By RACHEL WOOLF,
MANNA PROJECT WORKER

ROSE BOWL CENTRE

Tackles issues of social exclusion through play and youth work, linking closely with other community groups in the area.

This youth centre in St Pauls Park, welcomes over 400 young people a year. The programme includes sport, dance, music and arts. The recording studio is popular with those keen to develop skills in music production.

Kevin Boateng, 21, attended for four years. He has since released an experimental EP and founded Innovate Mag, which specialises in youth culture. Kevin is currently studying journalism at university. He says 'Rose Bowl gave me access to a music studio, which otherwise I would not have had. It also gave me the opportunity to meet like-minded people in a positive and friendly environment'.

CONTACT

www.rosebowlislington.org.uk

By CLIVE TACHIE, SENIOR
YOUTH WORKER



URBAN HOPE

Providing safe spaces, positive relationships and new experiences for young people.



Cooking club

L grew up coming to Urban Hope: we first met her when she was eight, and since then she has come to countless clubs, received mentoring, cooked and eaten many, many meals with us, played games, come on residential trips away and, when she was old enough, volunteered to work with younger Hopefuls at our Junior Club. We kept in touch with her when she went away to university to study Social Work & Social Policy and when she completed her degree course and it was time for her to find a job, we helped her with her CV and interview prep. Today L is thriving: she has been in her current job for more than a year, is in a good relationship and, happily for us, comes back to visit fairly regularly.

CONTACT

www.urbanhope.co.uk/
+44 (0)20 7354 9616
hello@urbanhope.co.uk

By ALEX ELLIOTT,
CO-DIRECTOR URBAN HOPE

HOSTNATION

HostNation is a new befriending platform for connecting London residents to local refugees and asylum seekers.

If you can offer the gift of time spent together (at least once a fortnight over 3 months) with someone lonely and adrift in an alien culture, then register as a befriender with HostNation. We will match you with someone in north London.

For more information on befriending and to register visit www.hostnation.org.uk





CANONBURY SOCIETY: 46TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017

Wednesday 24th May at 7 p.m. (doors open at 6.45 p.m.) at The Canonbury Tavern

Our guest speaker Simon Jones will examine the unseemly scramble between landowners and developers from the late 1700s that led to the elegant squares and houses of Canonbury.

Learn the latest on planning, parking, trees, community charities and events. Officers for the year will be elected. Send your nominations to Rosemary Brown, 11 Canonbury Park South, London, N1 2JR. Drinks and nibbles follow the meeting.

CANONBURY GARDENS OPEN FOR CHARITY UNDER THE NATIONAL GARDENS SCHEME 2017

Sun 23rd April

4 Canonbury Place, N1 2NQ.
2 - 5.30pm. Teas.

20 St Mary's Grove, N1 2NT.
2 - 5.30pm.

Combined admission for both £5.50

Mon 1st May

King Henry's Walk Garden, N1 4NX.
2 - 4.30pm. Teas. £3.50.

Sun 21st May

Canonbury House, Canonbury Place,
N1 2NQ
2 - 5.30pm. Teas. £4.

Sun 4th June

37 Alwyne Road, N1 2HW
2-5 p.m. Teas & plants. £4.00
41 Ecclesbourne Road, N1 3AF
1.30-7.00 p.m. Teas. £3.50

Saturday 24th June

5 Northampton Park, N1 2PP
2-6 p.m. Refreshments, dogs welcome.
£4.00



Children are admitted free to all gardens. For information on the charities supported and photos, visit www.ngs.org.uk.

CANONBURY SOCIETY SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

Sunday 25th June 2017

Theme: Summer of Love

Join your neighbours from 1-4 p.m. in a Canonbury garden. 'It was 50 years ago today' (more or less) that the Beatles launched their Sgt Pepper album during the 'Summer of Love'. Use your imagination to commemorate the album.

Further details of the party will be distributed to members this summer.



CANONBURY SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2017

1. Philip Walker – Chairman
2. Jack Lambert – Planning, and Chairman of Friends of the New River Walk
3. Sharon White – Treasurer
4. Rosemary Brown – Secretary, events
5. David Ireland – Newsletter, events
6. Susan Millership – Newsletter, events
7. James Coates – Planning
8. Sarah Strang
9. Sarah Ross Goobey – Membership Secretary
10. Mo Talukder
11. Marcella Menzies

Continuing thanks to Gill Hopkins (webmaster)

The Canonbury Society

JOIN

BENEFITS: Receive this Newsletter FREE. Attend special events such as garden parties and the AGM. Help support conservation in Canonbury. The minimum subscription is £1.00, but further donations are always welcome. Please tick as appropriate, complete your name/address details, and make your cheques payable to 'The Canonbury Society'.

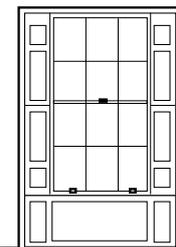
NAME

ADDRESS

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