



Telegraph Hill Society

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2004

Rubbish and Crime

We have a brilliant new park. We have a 20 mph speed zone. We have a safer pedestrian crossing at New Cross Gate. What next?

This was the question facing the Society at its recent meeting. A big eye-sore of the Hill is the amount of rubbish that accumulates everywhere. Some of it is just thrown down in the street. Some of it is fly-tipped. Unfortunately there is a lot which is just thrown out on to the pavement by residents themselves hoping that the Council will come and save them the job of disposing of it properly. Other stuff seems to be left forever in front gardens attracting rats, foxes or whatever.

We want to do something about it. We are not sure what yet. Ideas implemented by residents in other parts of the country have included information campaigns, hiring community skips, council enforcement blitzes, community tidy-up days and "garage sale" days. Let's have your ideas. You can email or write to the Society at the usual address (see back page), e-mail rubbish@thehill.org.uk or go to www.thehill.org.uk/environment.

Following the recent spate of crime on the Hill, a number of residents have got together to look at new initiatives. One outcome of this has been the proposal to form one or more Telegraph Hill Neighbourhood Watch Schemes. We promoted these in the Society's newsletter a few years ago but other than in Waller Road, they never really got off the ground. Now it looks as if it could happen but, as all these things do, it requires people to get together and help.

More will be appearing on this over the next few months with, hopefully, an inaugural meeting in the new year. So watch for posters or check with the web-site. Although this is not a Society initiative, we hope to be involved and, if you would be interested in learning more in advance, you can contact us and we can get the organisers to contact you.

Two great new initiatives to improve our community. Please get involved. The Hill deserves it.

Malcolm Bacchus, *Chairman THS*

Inside this issue:

AGM notice	
Things to buy	2
Church roof	

~~Park Update 3~~

Schools, schools, schools	4
---------------------------	---

~~Rubbish, satellite dishes and potholes ... a short guide~~

~~Nunhead Cemetery 5~~

Where the streets have names (part 2)	6
---------------------------------------	---

~~News 7~~

General Information	
Committee	8
Subscriptions	

**THIS IS A PART
SAMPLE OF THE
NEWSLETTER**

You have missed out on the local news section, a guide to planning issues, what is happening at the park and an article on local street names.

To get the full newsletter, join the society by filling in the application form on the back page.

What is happening to New Cross Gate?

Could the one-way system at New Cross Gate disappear?

Could we see new shops?

Is a new railway station likely to be built?

What is being done about crime and street safety?

What are we going to see for the £50m that is now being invested in the area?

How could it affect life on the Hill?

You will find out the answers to all this and more if you come along to our **open meeting** on:

**Saturday 5 February 2005
at 3.00 pm at the Café Orange**

where **Clive Wilson, Chief Executive of the New Cross Gate, New Deal for Communities initiative** will be speaking and answering your questions.

Telegraph Hill Society AGM

**5 February 2005
3.00 pm Café Orange**

AGM Agenda:

1. Election of Officers and Committee
2. Report on the Year
3. Other matters arising
4. Talk by Clive Wilson, Chief Executive of New Cross Gate's New Deal for Communities

**Open to both members and non-members
Refreshments available**

Free (although donations are always welcome)

Elections: Any local resident with an interest in the Hill is encouraged to stand for election to the Committee or to any Office of the Society. If you would like to stand for election please contact the Secretary or any officer of the Society before the meeting (addresses are on page 8 of this newsletter). Nominations from members of ethnic or disadvantaged minorities would be particularly welcomed.

Officers: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary. Other specific vacancies are shown on page 8 together with general committee places.

Christmas time



The Committee of the Telegraph Hill Society wish you a very happy Christmas.

Don't forget that there are a number of good things we have to hand as stocking fillers which can be ordered by contacting Tamsin Bacchus on 7635 9321 or at ths@baccma.co.uk.

OS Map of Telegraph Hill (1914) B&W repro	£2.10
1880 SE London Map on parchment paper	£5.00
History of Hatcham 12 page A5 book	£1.75
Guide to Telegraph Hill Park 1895 reprint	£1.00
Turning the Tide: The History of Deptford 234 pp, paperback	£6.99
Postcards of Telegraph Hill; pictures from 1890– 1905 (two sets of six):	
Park, Erlanger Road, New Cross Gate, New Cross, New X Road and Jerningham Road	£1.20
Pepys Road, Endwell Road, New Cross Gate, New Cross Road, Fire station and Lower Park	£1.50
Coffee Mugs, bearing the Telegraph Hill "houses" logo and available in red, brown, blue or green. Wonderful for mulled wine.	£2.00 each
All sorts of cute furry animal toys	from £1.75

Church Roof

You may have seen the appeal below before. I make no apologies for reproducing it as Christmas is coming up and the Telegraph Hill Festival takes place in the New Year.

Despite strong initial interest the project to raise money for St Catherine's Church roof is simply not gaining the support it needs. The local appeal for funds has so far raised only a little of the £320,000 needed.

If more money cannot be found, it will not merely a disaster for those who use the church for worship, it will be a disaster for all of us.

If the roof cannot be repaired, the Church will be closed. Now consider what happens if that occurs. The most likely scenario since it is not a listed building is that the site will sold, the buildings demolished and houses built where there was once a church and community centre. So:

- The festival would have no main venue
- St Catherine's Pre-school would close
- The neighbourhood centre would close together with all the activities that now occur there: yoga, dance, youth club, meetings gone
- Café Orange would close — as would its training scheme
- There would be no central venue for any public meetings or functions; no venue for private functions such as birthday parties and weddings.

In short, the heart of the community we have, and probably the community itself, would go.

This is not a religious plea — it will affect Hill dwellers regardless of any faith they may hold. So if you can contribute in any way — please get in touch. The Church and Community Centre are not necessarily looking to you for financial support but they need ideas, contacts, helpers, supporters and advocates. Anybody who can help in any way should call 020 7639 1050 or go to www.thehill.org.uk/church.



The church roof was replaced after the fires in 1913 (above) and 1945. Without help, it could look like this again ...

Schools, schools, schools

The New School Campaign

The Council has not heeded the New School Campaign despite its best efforts.

As readers will know, the creation of the Crossways Academy on Telegraph Hill meant that we lost any opportunity to host a new secondary school on the Hill.

The Council, faced with an unforeseen demand for school places and no site, decided on Ladywell where the play-tower, police station and associated buildings are currently empty. It wasn't ideal for a new North Lewisham school but the Council had left itself few options. Unfortunately for this idea, the police station is being sold by the Met for housing. So Lewisham had to find yet another location and came up with the idea of using the site occupied by Ladywell swimming pool!

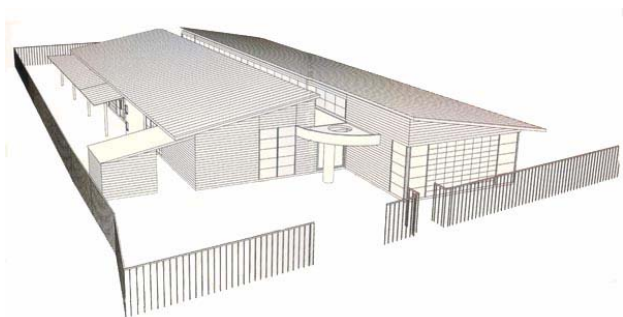
The New School Campaign tried hard to lobby for an alternative site. The pool site is less than ideal: it has no rail links from our part of the borough and is hardly North Lewisham - more like central or south Lewisham. It is a small and has huge traffic problems. However, the Council is sticking to their plan and the Campaign sees little chance of persuading them to change their minds. The overall view at the last meeting was that the Campaign had nothing against a school in Ladywell, but that one was needed here as well. Everyone fears that the Council will discover this to their cost within a year or two by which time more children will have suffered.

It seems daft to knock down a pool — the only training pool in the Borough — which has just been refurbished. A "Save Ladywell Pool Campaign" has been set up by pool users to try and change that decision, although they will probably be no luckier than the New School Campaign. The Council has mismanaged its education policy and appears to be making short-term decisions to solve problems which should have been apparent years ago. And each short term solution creates another problem in its turn.

The New School Campaign continues to fight for a secondary school which local children can use.

A New Children's Centre at Crossways

Crossways Academy has opened and there was a grand Official Opening Ceremony on 8th December. We would



hope to be able to organise a tour for interested residents sometime later this year.

Meanwhile, plans have now been put forward to build

the North West Lewisham's Children's Centre school on the remaining site in Wallbutton Road. The centre, which would cater for 70 children up to the age of five, and provide meeting and training rooms, is being designed by the same architects as the Academy.

As before, they have kindly given the Society a pre-view of their initial plans which show a single storey building with three main play rooms, a crèche and a training room. The original design had timber-clad walls but, following our comments, we are pleased to note that this has been changed so that the style and materials will now match those of the adjacent Academy. We have also expressed concern over the arrangement of the rooms which place the major play area right behind the gardens of the houses in Vesta Road. A number of considerations, basically ease of construction and costs, however dictate that this will not change.

Subject to planning permission, it is hoped that the Centre will be constructed and opened in 2005.

The Society has suggested that the Education Department has an open meeting with residents who might be affected.

Aske's

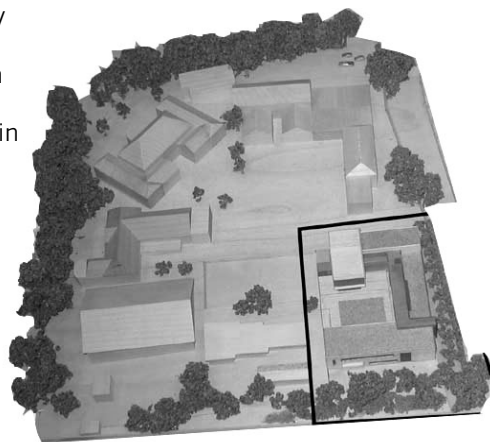
The Haberdashers' Aske's College recently had an open evening to display their plans for a new classroom quadrangle to be built in the south east corner of the Pepys Road site.

This two storey block is in a modern design but is hidden behind the main school block and is unlikely to be visible from any of the roads surrounding the school. It is, in any case, far less visibly intrusive

than the "Austrian chalet" style blocks built a few years back which front Pepys and Jerningham roads.

The Society's main concern with these blocks is that they potentially overlook the back gardens of houses in Wallbutton and Pendrell Roads. The Wallbutton building has no windows at first floor level and so should not create a problem. The Pendrell Road building is not only at the highest point on the site but has first floor windows. This needs to be sympathetically thought through. Well done though to the school for taking the trouble to have the meeting.

The school is moving towards becoming an Academy in September 2005. We have been told that the new admissions policy will be more favourable to local children who certainly feel disadvantaged at present. It will be encouraging for the community if this were so.





TELEGRAPH HILL SOCIETY

Email: ths@baccma.co.uk
www.thehill.org.uk

Chairman and acting Newsletter editor :

Malcolm Bacchus
(020) 7635 9421
92 Jerningham Road

Vice Chair:

Sandra Margolies

Secretary and Transportation Issues:

Graeme Wheatley
(020) 7732 4195
138 Jerningham Road

Membership Secretary:

John Kelly
(020) 7635 5552
109 Jerningham Road

Treasurer:

John Kelly / Ann Atkins

Parks & Amenities:

Jayne Bates
(020) 7639 9448
39 Erlanger Road

Roads & Pavements:

Adrian Bradbury
(020) 7639 1382
89 Waller Road

Events Organiser:

Vacant

Local History:

Vacant

Housings and buildings:

Vacant (Chairman acting)

Where you can make a difference ...

The Society's requirements remain much the same. If anybody has any limited **photocopying resources** (either free or at cost) that would be a huge help to us.

We need people to help with **event organisation** and **write articles for the newsletter**.

If you have noticed some of the odd changes to buildings which have occurred and wondered "however did that get planning permission", the answer is probably that we missed seeing the application and it got through without us challenging it. We need more volunteers to help with looking at **planning applications**—you don't need to have great knowledge as technical skills can be provided, only an enthusiasm to help preserve and enhance the Hill. If nothing else moves you then think: the better the Hill looks, the more your house will be worth!

No job will take you more than **2-3 hours a month** but it could make a huge difference to the area. So please **volunteer** for something. Don't think "somebody else will do it" - they won't. Without your help, things will be missed or left undone.

So come along and help.

Simply contact any of the committee members shown in the panel on the left or come along to one of our committee meetings (shown on the right). We'd love to hear from you.

If you buy anything from Amazon ...



then you must buy it through the Telegraph Hill website. Log on to www.thehill.org.uk and follow the link to Amazon and **5% of the money you spend will be donated to the Church Appeal**. It costs you nothing but one extra mouse click. How is that for a good deal?

Next THS Committee Meeting

18 January 2005

16 March 2005 (provisional date)

Meetings are held locally and any member of the Society is welcome to attend.

Meetings start at 7.45 pm.

Please contact the Secretary, Graeme Wheatley, on 020 7732 4195 or e-mail graeme.wheatley@bt.com for details.

If you are not a member, you may be wondering why you got this newsletter.

It might be because you are a new arrival on the Hill. If so, welcome. You have come to the best community in South-East London. To continue receiving this newsletter, we would ask you to join the Society. Details are given at the bottom of this page.



Membership subscriptions

We would like you to join the Society if you are not already a member. The subscription is nominal but helps to pay for administration.

If you are already a member but have not paid in the last twelve months, or you last paid a six year subscription in 1998 or before, then please look in your purse today. Current subscriptions per household £3 per year or £15 for six years.

Please complete the form below and send with your subscription to:

John Kelly, 109 Jerningham Road, SE14 5NH.

Name Tel:

Address

E-mail address (optional)