ON THE HILL

JUNE 2022

FREE



THE MASTER CARPENTER WHO SCORED A GOAL AT WEMBLEY

The Mole on the Hill talks to Phil Reavey

PLUS

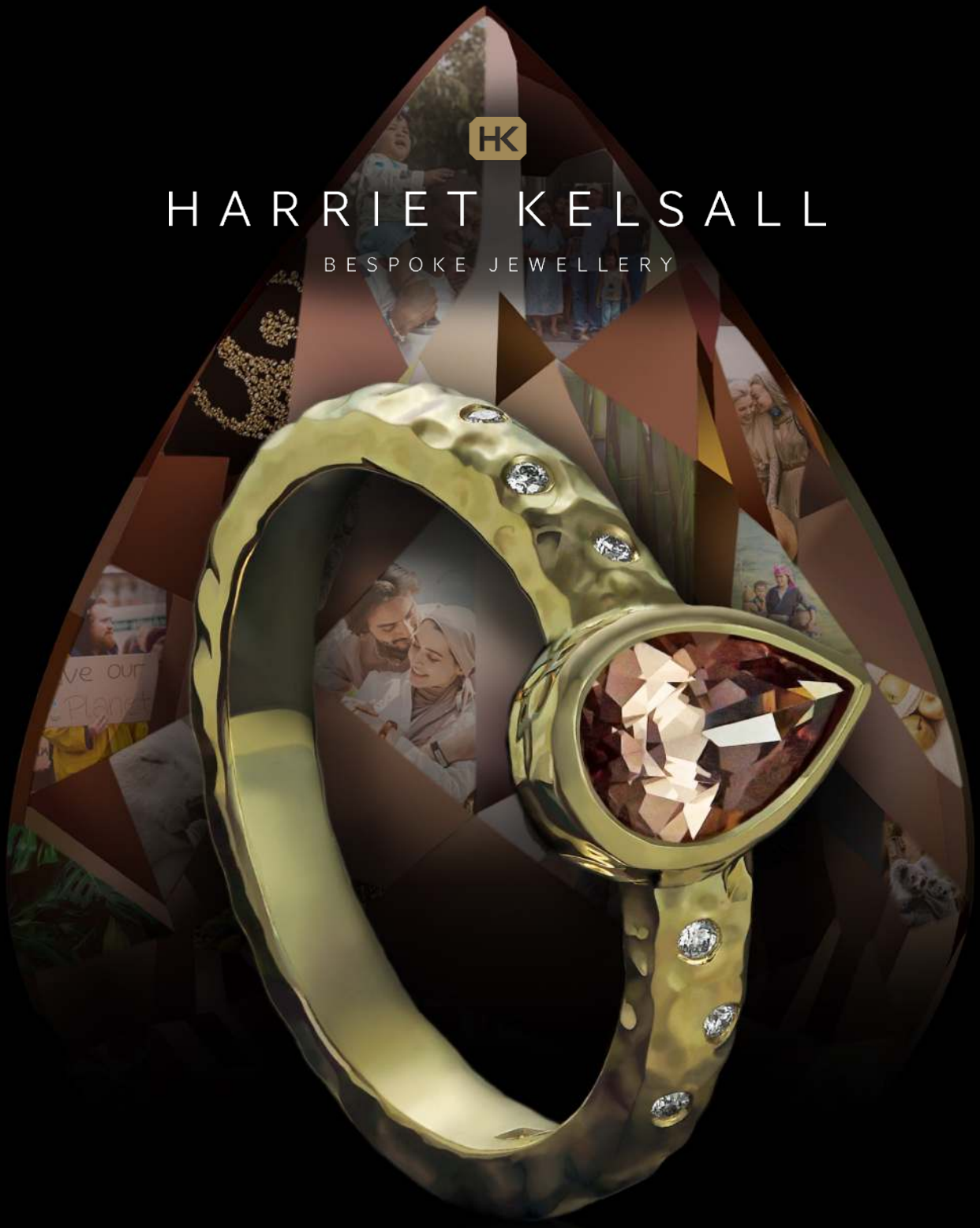
UKRAINE INITIATIVES IN PRIMROSE HILL

Supper at Sam's Cafe, donations and a fundraiser

PRIMROSE HILL QUIZ

Test your knowledge

PRIMROSE HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



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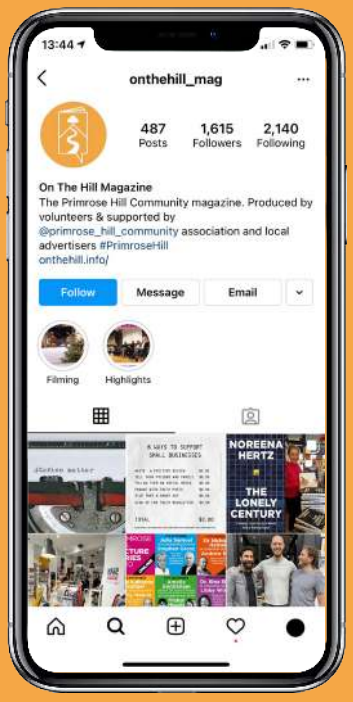
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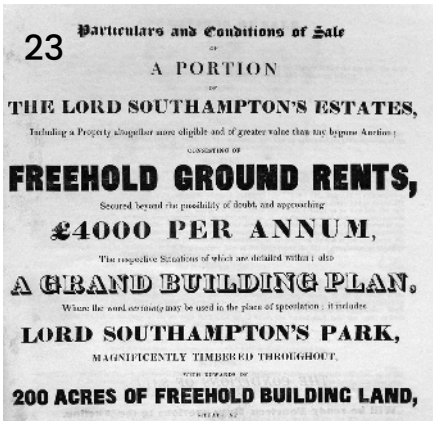
onthehill.info

JUNE 2022

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PRIMROSE HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

This publication is created by the community and for the benefit of Primrose Hill on behalf of your local charity, the Primrose Hill Community Association (PHCA). All proceeds from this publication go directly to fund the charity.
We hope you enjoy.

www.phca.cc

Disclaimer: the views in the magazine are not necessarily the views of the PHCA.

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PHOTOGRAPH BY
Sarah Louise Ramsay



WELCOME TO JUNE

I've just read Alan Bennett's *House Arrest*, which is his account of living in Primrose Hill throughout the pandemic. Like many of us he found solace in Regent's Park, endured home haircuts, and found one of our inquisitive foxes in his garden. It ends with him being finally permitted to travel again to Yorkshire and (to my joy, being a fellow Yorkshire-ite) took his readers along with him through Leeds and into the Dales. There are some laugh-out-loud bits, particularly relating to his haircut.

Meanwhile, just around the corner, Phil Reavey also used his lockdown to make an artistic contribution. Phil lives in Oldfield and has totally transformed his flat, painting all the walls – and doors – in the manner of a Mondrian painting. It's quite spectacular and certainly a better use of lockdown time than binge-watching Netflix.

Now that we're pretty much free to come and go as we please, there's plenty going on in the area this summer. The jewel in the crown – sorry, had to do it – is the Royal Garden Party on 5 June in Chalcot Square. The event will be organised by the Primrose Hill Community Association to mark the 70-year reign of the Queen. It will be held on Sunday 5 June between 12 noon and 5pm. Don your silk headscarves and come and join the fun.

Primrose Hill has, as ever, responded to the events in Ukraine, and there have been a number of supportive initiatives. There's still an ongoing fundraiser which aims to raise urgent medical supplies for Ukrainian hospitals. Check out the details on page 14 and donate if you can.

Enjoy the summer and I hope to see you in Chalcot Square on 5 June!

Maggie Chambers

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ON THE STREET

Postcards from Primrose Hill *p 10*

Sam's Café Stands with Ukraine *p 11*

New at Primrose Hill Library *p 12*

Pictures from Primrose Hill *p 13*

AND MORE



FROM MOSCOW TO PRIMROSE HILL

A message of peace and healing from a Reverend displaced from Russia

Continued on p 8 ▶

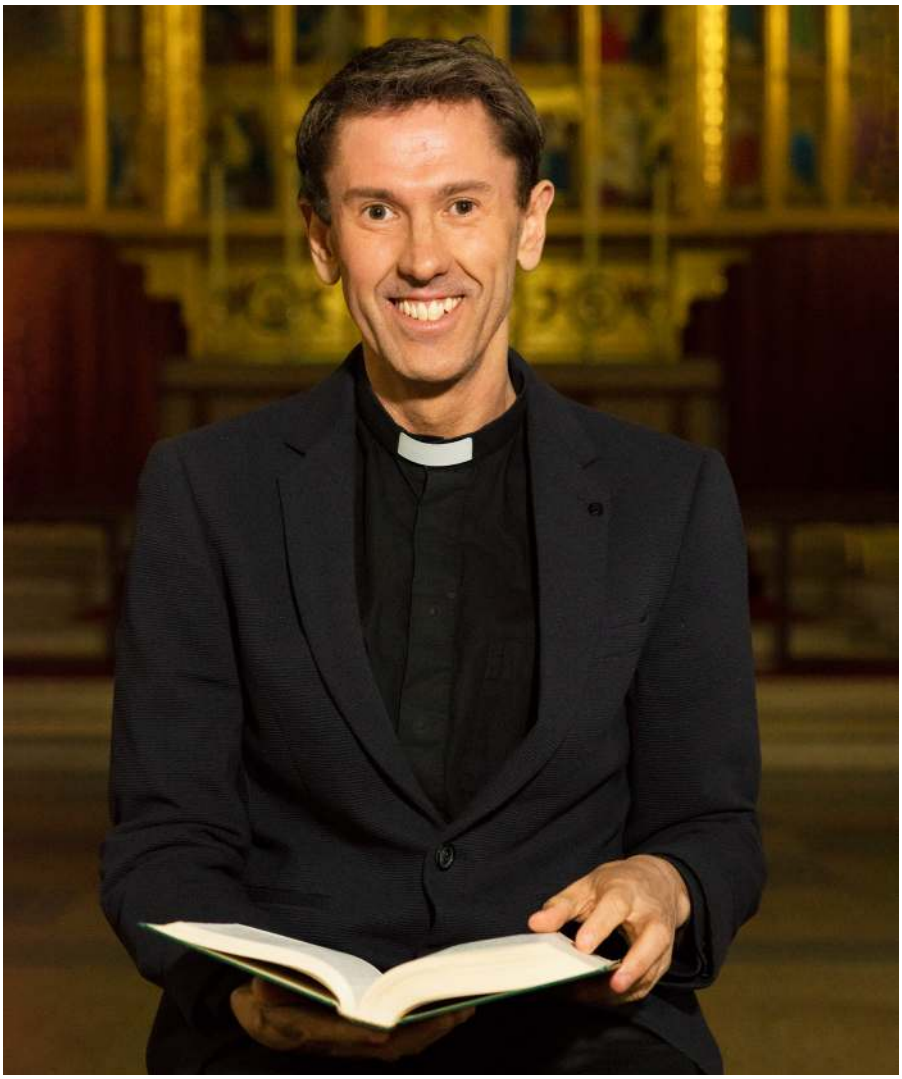
Photograph by Sarah Louise Ramsay

From Moscow to Primrose Hill

By Sanam Lou

On 20 February 2022, as Russia invaded Ukraine, the St Andrew's Anglican Church in Moscow had to make a quick decision to send Reverend Glen Ruffle back to England for his safety. A swift exit out of Moscow felt surreal for Glen, who had been living in Russia for almost ten years and had been thrilled to set down roots as a Reverend in training for the church. "On Monday I had a job and lots to do; on Tuesday I was packing my bags; Wednesday saw me lead my last service with them; and on Thursday morning I flew out of Moscow."

Originally from Lincoln, Glen was initially drawn to Russia to teach English, but was then hired by the international consultancy firm, KPMG. As he got more involved with the St Andrew's Anglican Church of Moscow, he was drawn to his new calling in ministry.



Photograph by Sarah Louise Ramsay

Embraced by the Hill

Prior to his arrival back on British soil, it had already been arranged by Reverend Canon William Gulliford that Glen would stay at St Mark's Church in Primrose Hill. He quickly got involved in the church, as the community at St Mark's put together a 'feeding rota' which has allowed Glen to meet different people and get to know the neighbourhood.

"I have been received by such a wonderful group of people. Everyone has been so kind and generous. Primrose Hill has amazing people and is such a wonderful area," expressed Glen. While his future is uncertain for now, Reverend Gulliford has invited him to remain at St Mark's as he waits to see where he will be posted next.

As grateful as Glen is for his new temporary home, he can't help but think of those he said farewell to in Russia. Unfortunately, with no end to this war in sight, Glen believes that there is no possible return to Russia for a very long time. "There were so many good people I had to leave behind. There were so many broken people who needed mental and emotional support," he says. "There will be a lot of healing required to get through this."

To the outside world, it is difficult to imagine what it's like living under the Putin regime. "The people in Russia aren't aware that a war is happening. They are bred into passivity. They accept authority very easily, because to challenge it is to lose everything: your job, your freedom and maybe even your life," says Glen.

He was adamant that during these challenging times, we must try to live humbly. "This is a time when we must bring healing to those who suffer, and encourage justice and love on earth." He went on to say, "It is key to avoid pointing fingers. Life is a lot more complicated than we would like to think."

Glen believes that we can get through this, but that healing will take time; and most importantly, we must bring people together, "offering a safe space and a platform to communicate, giving space to speak openly and not be afraid. We must remember that we don't abandon the Russians, that we learn how to build bridges and not destroy them. Ultimately, we must start loving each other."

NEWS & INFORMATION

from Primrose Hill Community Association

PRIMROSE HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Your regular update from PHCA, publisher of *On The Hill*

It's been a busy few months at the Primrose Hill Community Association!

In **March**, we held a Beatles talk; a sell-out Village Disco; and Martin Sheppard's brilliant talk on 'The Most Important Day in the History of Primrose Hill'(see p 23).

April is the month for our AGM, when we said our fond farewells to outgoing Chair Amanda Dickins and welcomed incoming Chair Marijke Good. Marijke is already familiar to us, as she has chaired the Primrose Hill Community Library for many years; we look forward to working more closely with her. Also in April, we held a Jumble Sale to get rid of two years of surplus possessions; a hustings, with 9 of the 10 local candidates attending; and the 'Last Friday in the month' bar, with an Irish theme and some wonderful live music.

In **May** we had the local council elections; the popular Top of the Hill Quiz; and another sell-out event, Bollywood on the Hill, hosted splendidly by Gurinder Chadha, (pictures on p 31).

In **June** we will be holding our Jubilee event: the Primrose Hill Royal Garden Party in and around Chalcot Square on Sunday 5 June from 2pm to 5pm. There will be all types of live music throughout the afternoon. For drinks, there will be free non-alcoholic refreshments, or buy from our beer stall or Pimms stall. You can enjoy cakes galore: bake and donate one if you'd like to contribute (prizes for best-looking and best-tasting), or bring your own picnic. Of course there'll be lots of children's activities, including crown-making! So put the date in your diary, and come and join your neighbours to celebrate Her Majesty's platinum jubilee in style.

For **July**, we have started planning our third Primrose Hill Art Trail on the afternoon of Sunday 3 July. Contact trail@phca.cc to take part.

As well as these one-off events, there are many regular activities taking place every week: on Wednesdays, Open House, a free film, talk, or outing; Thursday walks (moving from Wednesdays from 9 June), often with specific themes; plus Zumba Gold, Online Yoga, Last Friday in the month Bar, Mah Jong, Life Drawing and Sunday Bar.

Volunteers

As you can imagine, organising so many events and activities takes a lot of planning and volunteer support. Huge thanks go to our Events team, our *On The Hill* team, our volunteers, our donors and our IT and tech team who keep all the cogs turning. If you would like to help too, please get in touch.

Neighbourhood Nosh

One of our big projects that brings help to our area is Neighbourhood Nosh. The dedicated team manage to provide over 100 cooked meals (3 courses) each week to those in need. It is hard work and often difficult to manage logistically, but the team just get on with it and deserve high praise and recognition for the amazing work they do. They are looking to expand to run a drop-in 'Welcome Café' at the centre. They always need more cooks, so if you enjoy being in the kitchen, please get in touch.

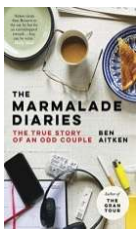
Finally, we must thank our regular and one-off donors and supporters who help make all the above possible. It is an incredible community here in Primrose Hill, and long may that continue.

Mick Hudspeth (CEO)

Primrose Hill Community Library

Monday 6 June at 7pm

Two new heart-warming novels



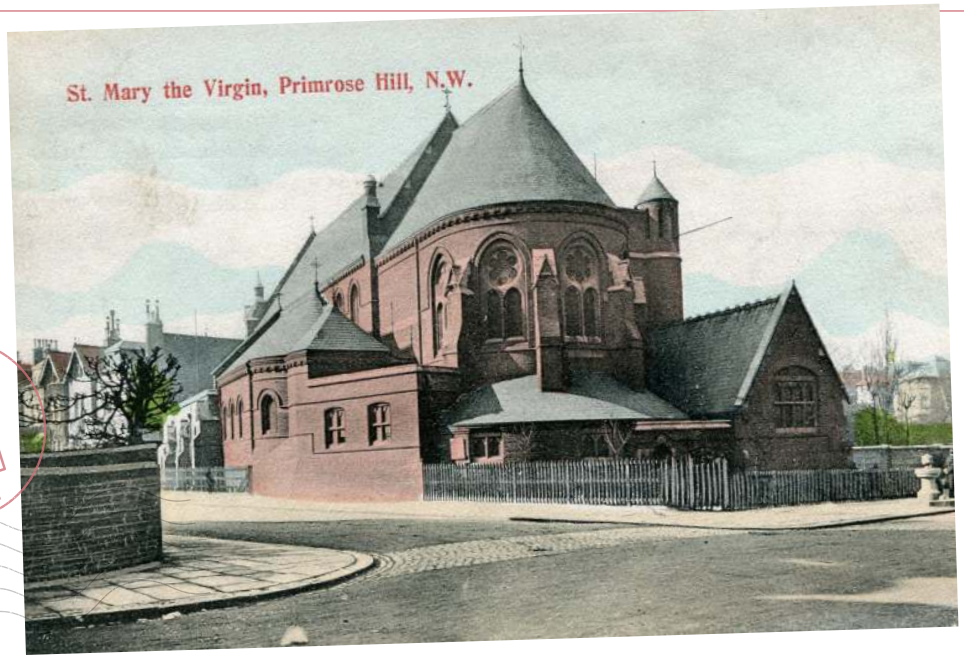
Ben Aitken is a volunteer in the library, and this is the true story of the unlikely friendship that develops when he moves in with a difficult widow 50 years his senior – just before lockdown! "Charming and funny", Jenny Colgan; 'Simply too good', Daily Mail.

Freya Sampson tells the familiar story of a community fighting to save their library from closure, while a shy young library worker fights to find her voice. "Made me laugh, cry and cheer", Clare Pooley.



Sharpleshall Street, NW1 8YN tel. 0207 419 6599 www.phcl.org £2 at the door

POSTCARDS FROM PRIMROSE HILL



Here is a lovely colour postcard of St Mary the Virgin church, viewed from Primrose Hill Road. To the left you can see the houses on Elsworthy Road, and on the right the houses on King Henry's Road. Note the fountain, which is no longer there. The church was opened for worship in 1872.

The card was posted in 1908 by 'Rose' to a Miss Mackintosh, who lived at 7 Upper Park Road, Haverstock Hill. Rose thanks 'Nell' for the postcard she sent her, and mentions that she has seen *Romeo & Juliet*.

The 1891 census gives us earlier information on Nelly's family. She was born in 1889 at 64 St George's Road (now Chalcot Road), and grew up in Primrose Hill. Her father, Thomas, was a pianoforte porter; her mother, Ann, a homemaker.

In 1891, 2-year-old Nelly was the youngest of 3 children, after 7-year-old sister Kate, and brother William, then aged 5.

The 1911 census tells us that by the time the postcard was sent, Nelly Margaret Mackintosh was a house parlourmaid who lived with Mrs Marie Mawson, a widow aged 71, and her 32-year-old daughter, Mildred, in Haverstock Hill.

@old_primrosehill_postcards



SAM'S CAFE
PRIMROSE HILL

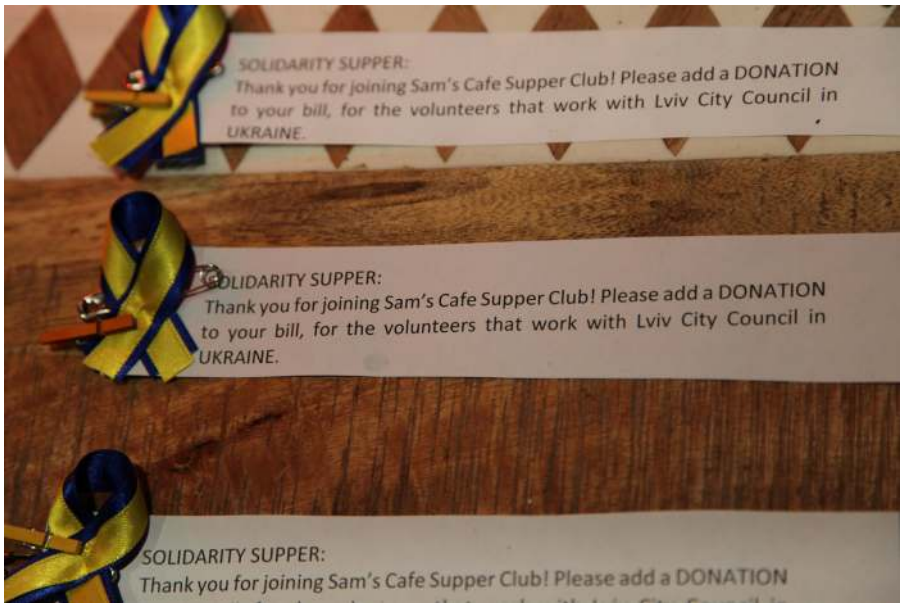
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Sam's Café: Solidarity with Ukraine

By Sarah El Hadj



Photograph by David A Lawrence Images

Sam's Café's holds a popular fortnightly Tuesday Supper Club, and back in March it took the form of a 'Solidarity with Ukraine' evening. It was organised by UK Must Act, a chapter of Europe Must Act, which campaigns for migration and asylum reform across the UK and Europe. The evening consisted of a live panel discussion, a pre-recorded interview, music, poetry and a three-course supper. It was well attended, with Jon Snow amongst the guests. Snow's latest documentary, *Jon Snow Presents: What if Putin Goes Nuclear*, is available to watch online on All 4.

As the guests arrived, a pre-recorded interview with a Ukrainian actress, Diana Muzyka, played in the background. She detailed the realities of escaping the war and eventually arriving in Germany, and her interview was followed by a live Zoom call with panellists. Then, before the supper began, a Polish musician and activist, Zwykla Polka, performed her latest song dedicated to those fleeing Ukraine; and Syrian refugee Entissar Hajali read her apt poem, *Hope.*

Alicja Pawlowska and I organised the evening, having met as volunteers with UK Must Act. Refugee rights are close to our hearts as Pawlowska, who is Polish, spent time volunteering at the Polish and Belarussian border in August 2021; I am Syrian and work with Middle Eastern refugees in the UK, helping with English language skills and integration.

You cannot buy a room or anything because money has no value here any more

The Ukrainian crisis hits a nerve for me because of my Syrian heritage. My father watched his hometown of Aleppo bombed on the news by the same army that has now invaded Ukraine. Our event coincided with the 11th anniversary of the Syrian war.

Pawlowska, who moderated the evening's panel discussion, met the panellists at the Polish and Belarussian border, where refugees were falsely promised asylum in Poland if they crossed through Belarus, orchestrated by Belarusian President Lukashenko. Once arriving at the border, they were met with soldiers instead of sanctuary.

The panellists were Sara Cincurova, a freelance human rights journalist who fled Ukraine during the invasion after reporting from the frontline, and Polish MP and urban activist, Franek Sterczewski. They discussed the border before and after the Ukraine invasion, the invasion itself, and the EU and UK's response to the crisis

Cincurova recalled, "When I was fleeing Kharkiv myself, I stopped at a hotel in central Ukraine. It was impossible to find a room, impossible to find a safe shelter, because there were hundreds of thousands of people on the move. The receptionist said to me, 'You cannot buy a room or anything because money has no value here any more'."

Just as in Syria, Ukraine is at the edge of unprecedented food shortages. Donations from the evening went to a group of volunteers that work with Lviv City Council to provide food supplies for refugees and soldiers on the frontline, in Lviv and beyond. "The war is likely to echo the Syrian scenario, in that our ability to win the war is linked with our ability to feed the nation," the Humanitarian Aid Coordinator for Lviv City Council explained.

We will be hosting another local event in the coming months: to share updates from the ground in Lviv, more information about our campaign, and how you can support asylum-seekers and refugees in the UK.

To stay up to date with UK Must Act's campaign, to volunteer your time or to attend a future event, join our mailing list at **www.landing.mailerlite.com/webforms/landing/m9n9r0**

Contact:
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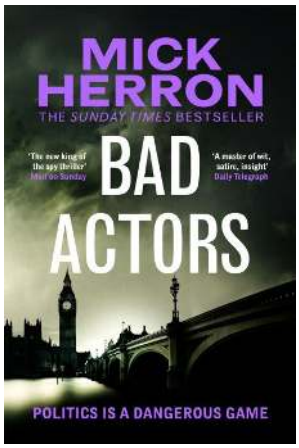


LATEST FROM

Primrose Hill Community Library

Here are the latest acquisitions at the library. See how many of them you can read throughout the summer!

FEATURED



Mick Herron
Bad Actors

"The le Carré of the future" expands his world of spies with an even shadier cast of characters.

PLUS

PAPERBACK

Lisa Allen-Agostini
The Bread the Devil Knead

Lee Child, Andrew Child
Better Off Dead

Miranda Cowley Heller
The Paper Palace

Bella Mackie
How To Kill Your Family

Christine Mangan
Palace of the Drowned

Meg Mason
Sorrow and Bliss

Jon McGregor
Lean Fall Stand

Rahul Raina
How to Kidnap the Rich

Ruth Ozeki
The Book of Form & Emptiness

Peter Robinson
Not Dark Yet

Elif Shafak
The Island of Missing Trees

Emma Stonex
The Lamplighters

Sarah Winman
Still Life

HARDBACK

Anne Tyler
French Braid

AND MORE...

OPENING HOURS

Monday
10am–6pm

Wednesday
12–7pm

Friday
10am–6pm

Saturday
10am–3pm

Thank you for your continued support.

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The value of pensions and investments can fall as well as rise and you can get back less than you invested.

Pictures from Primrose Hill

As you can see, we had a fantastic response to our request for photos of Primrose Hill. Here are the ones which were sent in recently. If you have any images of the area that you'd like to share, please send them to editor@onthehill.info and we'll include them in our next issue.



















1. Catherine Charles, 2, 4, 7 & 9. Nadia & Eddy Boujo, 5 & 8. Ronald Hooberman, 6. Janet Dulin Jones

NEWS & VIEWS



Ukraine Appeal

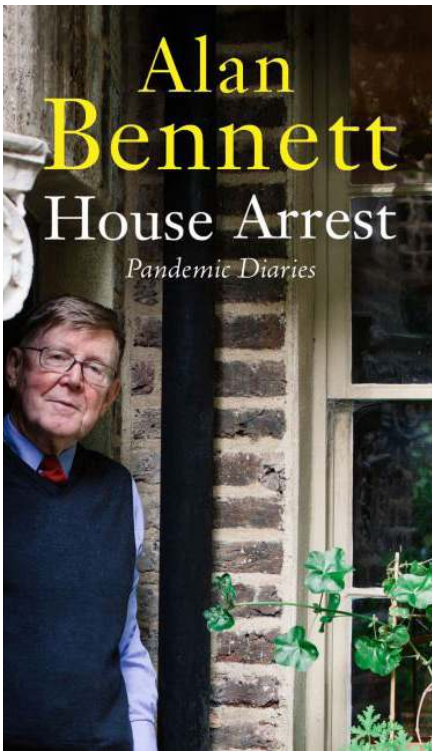
The Ukraine Appeal, organised by the Primrose Hill and Belsize Park communities, has received fantastic support.

In the early days of the invasion, Primrose Hill Community Library opened its doors for donations and there was a huge response. Since the campaign began, at least ten vans have arrived in Ternopil, Western Ukraine. The supplies have been distributed directly to children's hospitals, maternity hospitals and hospitals treating the wounded. The Appeal also worked with six schools to raise donations, supply hundreds of hand-made cards and send food and medical supplies to an orphanage. In recent weeks a large van full of £30,000's worth of urgent medical supplies and donations has arrived in Ukraine.

The Ukraine Appeal has worked directly with partners in Ternopil to collect and purchase items that are urgently requested, including a hospital generator for the National Cancer Institute in Kiev and an ultrasound machine.

Donations of goods are no longer being taken and instead Daniel Harvey is organising a fundraiser to make sure the momentum continues. The aim is to raise £100,000 to provide urgent medical supplies, medical equipment and transportation costs for Ukrainian hospitals. Daniel is working alongside volunteer doctors and staff from the North Central London NHS Consortium: Royal Free London, North Middlesex University Hospital and The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital, headed up by Doctor Louisa Shovel and Doctor Maya Zosmer.

To donate to Daniel's fundraiser, go to **www.gofundme.com/f/urgent-medical-supplies-for-ukrainian-hospitals**



House Arrest

Alan Bennett has recorded his life spent under lockdown in Primrose Hill. His new book, *House Arrest: Pandemic Diaries*, details his year spent in and out of lockdown, and the result is thoughtful, touching and on occasions laugh-out-loud funny.

Available from Primrose Hill Books.

Sponsorship of *On The Hill*



On The Hill is distributed free of charge to residents in Primrose Hill. If any residents are able to help contribute to our costs, or sponsor us, please contact Mick at the Community Centre on 020 7586 8327.



Photo Quiz

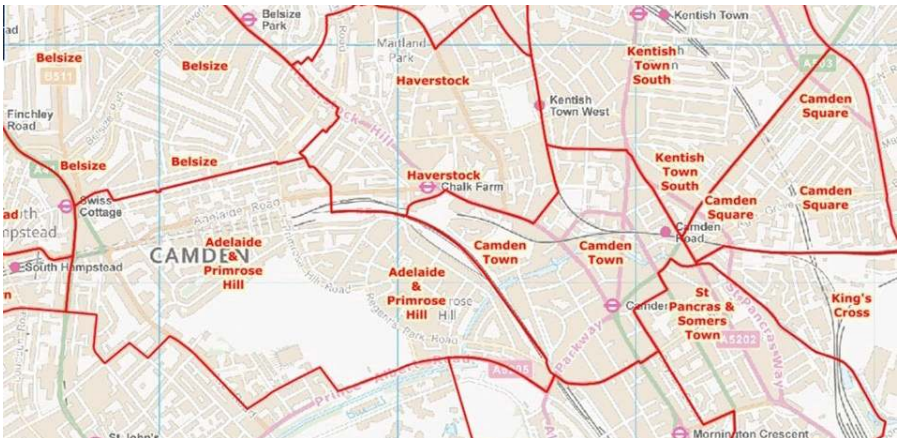
Can you guess when and where in Primrose Hill this photo was taken? *Answer on p 28.*



The Meni Club

A collective of local women have formed a club/network to offer support and share the experiences of women going through the menopause. If you're suffering from the myriad of conditions which can arise at this time, sign up to the Meni Club website to find lots of great resources to support you. There are helpful tips for navigating the pitfalls, such as dietary advice, beneficial exercise such as yoga and wild swimming, suggestions for crystals and even regular recipes to try out at home.

www.themeniclub.co.uk



Local Elections

The recent local elections on 5 May have brought three new councillors into our newly transfigured Adelaide with Primrose Hill Ward. As our boundaries have changed, so have the councillors, and we welcome Anna Burrage (Labour), Ajok Athian (Labour) and Matt Cooper (Labour). There was a 36.5% turnout from our ward.

On The Hillimerick

Lawn tennis, a game of infinite skill,
Wooden racquets, white ball, known as a fill.
Wimbledon's garden party.
New stadia-arty.
Why I court Primrose, and call "Out!", Henman Hill.

Howard Richards

What's On JUNE

NEW THIS JUNE

SUNDAY 5 JUNE

Royal Garden Party in Chalcot Square
Join us in Chalcot Square for an afternoon of music, tea, cake, cucumber sandwiches and Pimm's, plus children's activities. NW1 8YA. 12–5pm. Free.

MONDAY 6 JUNE

Library Author Talk
Two local authors have written novels inspired by the pandemic: our library volunteer Ben Aitken with *Marmalade Diaries*, and Freya Sampson with *The Last Library*. Come and hear them talk about the inspirations for their writing. PHCL. 7pm. £2 at the door.

TUESDAY 7 JUNE

Film Show at the Library: *Pride*
Realising that they share common foes in Margaret Thatcher, the police and the conservative press, London-based gay and lesbian activists lend their support to striking miners in 1984 Wales. PHCL. 7.15pm. £8 in cash, in advance at PHCL or on the door (includes a glass of wine).

FOR KIDS

MONDAY

Ready Steady Go
Pre-school education and activities for children aged 2–3 years. PHCC. 9.30am–12.30pm. Contact 020 7586 5862.

Rhyme Time
Library Rhyme Time for under 5s. PHCL. Suggested £2 donation. 11–11.45am. Contact 020 7419 6599.

Circus Glory
Trapeze for ages 2½–16. All levels welcome. PHCC. 2–7.15pm. Contact Genevieve 07973 451 603.

TUESDAY

Ready Steady Go Beginners
A gentle introduction to pre-school activities for 1–3 years. PHCC. 9.15–11am & 11.15am–1pm. Contact 020 7586 5862.

Monkey Music
Music and play for children under 5. PHCC. 9.25am–12.10pm. Contact 020 8451 7626.

Play Happening
Play sessions for babies and toddlers. PHCL. £15 per session. 9.30–11.30am. Book at www.playhappening.co.uk.

Hartbeeps
Multi-sensory music movement and drama classes for infants and toddlers. 2–5pm. Term bookings £11 per class. Contact clarelouise@hartbeeps.com.

Messy Monkeys
Messy play sessions for babies and toddlers. PHCL. 2–4.15pm. Book at www.messy-monkeys.com.

Bilingual Beats
'Spanish through music' classes for children. PHCL. 4–5pm. Book at www.bilingualbeatsonline.com.

Karate
Authentic Shotokan karate classes for children aged 5+. PHCC. 4–5pm. Register at www.shiranamikai.co.uk.

WEDNESDAY

Les Petits Bellots
A bilingual mini-crèche for children aged 6 months–4 years. PHCL. 9.15–11.15am. Information at www.lespetitsbellots.com.

Ready Steady Go
Pre-school education and activities for children aged 2–3 years. PHCC. 9.30am–12.30pm. Contact 020 7586 5862.

Circus Glory
Trapeze for ages 2½–16. All levels welcome. PHCC. 2–6.45pm. Contact Genevieve 07973 451 603.

Primrose Hill Children's Choir
Fun songs and games for ages 4–11. St Mary's NW3 3DJ. 4.10–5.10pm. 1st time free, then £8. Contact maestromattheww@yahoo.co.uk.

THURSDAY

Ready Steady Go Beginners
A gentle introduction to pre-school activities for 1–3 years. PHCC. 9.15–11am. Contact 020 7586 5862.

Mini Mozart
Musical story time. PHCL. 9.30am–12pm. Book at www.minimozart.com.

Ready Steady Go ABC
Exploratory play, singing, dance and stories for babies and toddlers 6–18 months. PHCC. 11.30am–12.30pm. Contact 020 7586 5862.

Messy Monkeys
Messy play sessions for babies and toddlers. PHCL. 2–4.15pm. Book at www.messy-monkeys.com.

First Class Learning
English and Maths tuition. PHCL. 3.30–6pm. Contact 020 7966 484 568.

Catherine's Ballet
Ballet classes for under 5s. PHCC. 4–5pm. Contact 020 8348 0262, info@chalkfarmschoolofdance.co.uk or chalkfarmschoolofdance.co.uk.

FRIDAY

Ready Steady Go
Pre-school education and activities for children aged 2–3 years. PHCC. 9.30am–12.30pm. Contact 020 7586 5862.

Circus Glory
Trapeze for ages 2½–16. All levels welcome. PHCC. 2–7.15pm. Contact Genevieve 07973 451 603.

SATURDAY

Club Petit Pierrot
Fun French lessons for babies and children. PHCC. 9am–10.15pm, 1–3 years old; 11–11.45am, 2–4 years old. Contact 020 3969 2642. www.clubpetitpierrot.co.uk.

Caterpillar Music
Multi-sensory music and movement sessions for babies and toddlers. PHCL. 3.15–4.15pm. Contact Anita at 07968486471.

SUNDAY

Perform
Drama, dance and singing for children 4–12 years. PHCC. 10am–11.30am (4-7s) and 11.30am–1pm (7-12s). Contact 02072559120 or enquiries@perform.org.uk.

FOR ADULTS

MONDAY

Chilled Strings
Beginners' orchestra rehearsals. PHCC. 6.30–8.45pm. Contact sueandhercello@gmail.com.

Bridge
For beginners and intermediate players. PHCL. 6.30pm. Contact jojarrold@gmail.com or call 07887 568 822.

Primrose Hill Choir
Love to sing? All styles of music, all levels welcome. PHCC. 7.30–9.30pm. Contact maestromattheww@yahoo.co.uk.

TUESDAY

Pilates
Dynamic sessions, 10.15–11am; gentle session 11.30am–12.15pm. PHCL. £12 per class, £100 for 10 classes. Contact Liza on 07525 461 361 or lizacawthorn@gmail.com.

Zumba Gold
Zumba class for seniors looking for a fun, modified low-intensity workout, made easy with simple-to-follow steps. PHCC. Free. Check PHCA website for details.

Mah Jong
Mah Jong sessions for all levels. PHCC. 7–9pm every second and fourth week of the month. Contact jimbo.mulligan@outlook.com.

General Yoga
Intermediate level yoga. PHCC. 6.30–7.45pm. Contact Catriona first at 020 7267 5675.

Morris Dancing Class
Learn Morris dancing. All welcome, no experience required. CSH. 6.30pm. Book online.

What's On JUNE

WEDNESDAY

Primrose Hill Walks
Weekly walk through Primrose Hill, Regent's Park and surrounding areas, sometimes with themes. 10.30am–12pm. Free. Check PHCA website for details. Starting on 9 June, the walks move to Thursday morning.

Open House
A regular activity (film, talk, performance) followed by tea, cake and chat. PHCC. 2–4.30pm. Free.

English Folk Dance Club
Fun for dancers of all abilities and none. No partner needed. PHCC. 7.15–10pm. Contact camdenfolkdance@yahoo.com.

THURSDAY

Silver Swans Ballet
Ballet classes for over 55s. PHCC. 11am–12pm. Contact katie@primrosehillballet.co.uk.

Gentle Pilates
Gentle but effective Pilates class. PHCL. 12:45–1.45pm. £15 per session. Contact annie@mactherapy.org

Narcotics Anonymous
Support for people with narcotics problems. PHCC. 1.30–3.45pm. Free. More information via NA helpline 0300 999 1212.

Primrose Hill Community Orchestra
Community orchestra. PHCC. 2–4pm. Contact sueandhercello@gmail.com.

Life Drawing
All levels welcome, friendly group. Please bring your own materials. PHCC. 6.30–8.30pm. £10. Just drop in or sign up online at meetup.com/Primrose-Hill-Life-Drawing-London

Kriya Yoga
Yoga class. PHCL. 6.45–8.15pm. Contact info@kriyayogauk.com.

English Country Dancing Class
Learn English country, ceilidh, barn dancing, and related social folk dance styles from further afield. All welcome, no experience required. CSH. 7.30pm. Book online.

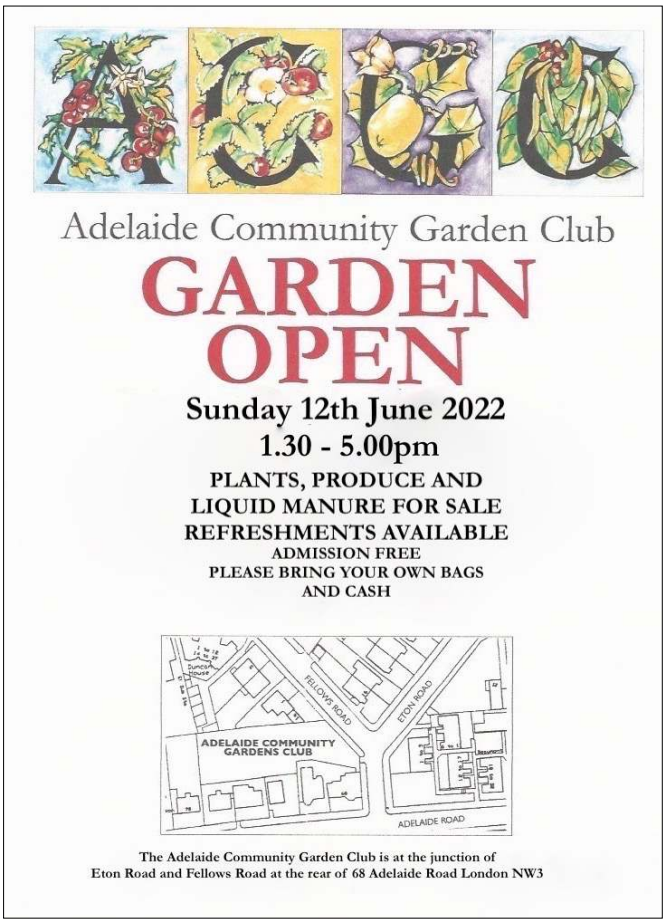
FRIDAY

Aerial Pilates
Improve strength and flexibility through movement with the support of an aerial sling. PHCC. 10–11am. Contact circusbodies@gmail.com.

Chair Yoga for All
Online chair yoga. 2.45–3.45pm. Free. Register at phca.cc.

SATURDAY

Primrose Hill Market
St Paul's School playground, Elsworthy Road, NW3 3DS. 10am–3pm. Contact www.primrosehillmarket.com.





CONTACT DETAILS

PHCC
Primrose Hill Community Centre
29 Hopkinsons Place
(off Fitzroy Road)
NW1 8TN
Contact: info@phca.cc
www.phca.cc
020 7586 8327

PHCL
Primrose Hill Community Library
Sharpleshall Street
NW1 8YN
Contact: events@phcl.org
www.phcl.org
020 7419 6599

CSH
Cecil Sharp House
2 Regent's Park Road
NW1 7AY
Contact: info@efdss.org
www.cecilsharphouse.org
020 7485 2206

Poetry Slamming at Open House

By Tracey Mitchell



Open House is Primrose Hill Community Association's programme of talks, lectures, and gallery and museum visits, held on Wednesday afternoons. In February, Open House enjoyed an afternoon of performance poetry, led by Megan Beech.

Megan won the Poetry Society's SLAMbassadors National Youth Slam in 2011 and currently teaches at the Working Men's College (WMC) in Camden. Her earliest success came in a competition judged by Philip Pullman when she was just eleven.

She worked an apprenticeship in poetry slams, where participants have three minutes to perform in a public space and are rated by judges drawn from an audience. Megan is enthusiastic about the diversity and inclusiveness of these events, which are 'open to everyone with no need to have published a book. You can just get up and go'.

During her event at the Community Centre, Megan explained that she sees the roots of today's performance poetry in ancient traditions of storytelling, as well as ghost stories imparted by a teller to one, or more, listeners. She is drawn to the connective aspects of performance: the ways in which the poet can communicate with the people in a room as she reaches for something that someone else might feel too.

"The best poetry takes us out of the rhythm of everyday life and says, 'Shouldn't we be thinking about this? It's not what you'd talk about over dinner or a cup of tea'. There are things which are difficult to discuss, but poetry gives permission," Megan suggests.

The political aspects of performance poetry appeal to her support for intersectional causes. She is interested in activism and standing up for things. "There's no need to go through the process of publication. You can be more polemical and comment more quickly. The work is 'published' as soon as it's spoken or leaves the tongue."

The democratising quality of the form was demonstrated during the Open House afternoon when one of Megan's WMC students performed a poem written several years previously. Her impromptu performance was peopled by a range of characters from a housing estate where she used to live.

The ways in which performance poetry allows for personal revelation, and promoting conversations about ourselves, is central to Megan's belief and practice. In one poem she likens her own experience of life to the Japanese art of kintsugi where, instead of repairing a broken pot so you don't see the cracks, you pipe gold into the cracks so they show up even more. Megan found this an appropriate metaphor for what she considers to be her own flaws: 'the cracks in the crockery' offer an opportunity to build on 'dazzling fragments'.

Having recently completed a PhD on Dickens' public readings and adaptations of his texts for performance, Megan plans to combine freelance performing with educational work for the immediate future, at WMC and at City Lit. She has been working with the charity Eastside London, which is running a programme over several years with primary, secondary and SEND pupils. Her workshops encourage young women to speak out about issues like sexual harassment; and young men to bypass bravado, or guardedness, to talk openly about the things they care about. The honesty which emerges can be surprising, even to Megan herself: "Maybe I've given that person something they wouldn't have otherwise; what lives in our heads, which often we don't give ourselves permission to say."

A Stitch in Time

By Bridget Grosvenor



St Mary the Virgin, Primrose Hill, opened its doors for the first time on 2 July 1872. It was built to accommodate the flourishing congregation which had outgrown the church on Ainger Road that served the boys' home on Regent's Park Road. This year the community is preparing to celebrate the church's 150th birthday.

The occasion will be marked in all sorts of ways. For example, there is Grow the Wonder, an ambitious fundraising project to help update the interior of the church so that it can be used as both a place of worship and a space where local groups can meet and the youth work be supported. There is also Chris Kitching's excellent, recently published book, *A Church and its People*, about the history of St Mary's. Thirdly, there is the kneeler project, set up to make ten beautiful kneelers to replace the rather saggy-looking ones made forty years ago.

The inspiration for this project came from Anna Pearson, a needlepoint designer and an active member of the congregation at St Mary's, who has lived in Primrose Hill for the last 18 years. Anna has taught and designed needlepoint for over 45 years. Inspiration for her designs comes from beautiful things that she finds on her travels around the world.

Anna found a group of willing stitchers (myself included) and gave us canvas, wool and instructions for producing a kneeler. Some of us had plenty of experience and others very little, so weekly stitching sessions were organised where the stitchers could come to work together and get advice from Anna. We could then compare progress and get help with any problems before they became too serious. Each piece takes hours and hours of patient work, so it was helpful to meet regularly to keep the momentum going. What is brilliant about a joint endeavour like this is how it brings people together. As we sat around the table diligently stitching, stories were told and friends were made.

The designs for the St Mary's kneelers are based on elements that Anna found in the church. The repeated circles on the top of the kneelers reflect the outlines of the metal grate which covers the old underfloor heating system. The shape of the floor tiles influenced the pattern around the sides of the kneelers. For those of the group who have been bitten by the needlepoint bug, Anna has designed a kit to make a needlepoint cushion using stitches and patterns from the kneelers.

Several of the canvases are now complete, ready to be made up into the finished article; they do look beautiful and the replacement kneelers will renew the splendour of the chapel at St Mary's. But something else important has been created in the stitching of them: new friends.

Young journalists from Haverstock School interview author Taran Matharu

The tiger strode into the jungle clearing. Shocked and terrified, Taran leapt backwards, attempting to hide from the creature's eyeline, but it was too late, the tiger was about to charge! Luckily, another safari group nearby realised what was about to happen and made a loud noise and the tiger retreated.

Years earlier, when Taran was 9 and growing up in Brazil, his younger sister had fallen from a wall and he had rescued her from a charging rhino.

We asked Taran if the trauma of coming head-to-head with a tiger and rescuing his little sister from a charging rhino had influenced him and his writing.

"Yes, having that sudden fear made me better able to understand how someone might feel when being attacked. In terms of writing how my characters feel in similar situations, it has helped."

Taran's writing career began when he posted his book *Summoner* on the Wattpad website, and 3 million people read it! Before Wattpad he was just another struggling writer; and afterwards the publishers were interested as his characters draw you into their world with magnetic force.

We asked what inspired him? Taran showed us the grid of authors he used as inspiration: JK Rowling's *Harry Potter* series, Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings* and lots more. He didn't steal ideas, but used them to learn about writing in that genre.



The actual tiger which attacked Taran



"Read, read, read," is his advice to aspiring writers. "Set aside a time each day to write and stick to it. If no ideas come to you, just sit there."

He also recommends: "Always finish in the middle of a sentence; there is nothing lonelier than an empty page."

Taran has a combination of discipline and vivid imagination. He told us that the author has to do a lot of work to create the book, and it is best to have a publisher. If you self-publish you have to do the configuration and endless proof-reads yourself, which is tiresome. However, he said the downside of a publisher is that they control everything, from the front cover to the choice of title, and they take most of the revenue.

We think Taran is a natural hero, an original and a born writer, and we are very glad he rescued his little sister and escaped the charging tiger.

Thank you, Taran.

Year 7: Abbas, Sophie, Shemi, Ariela, Keyonte, Manuela, Yunus

Year 8: Malacahai, Mikel, Yasmin, Ayesha, Tahir





Image courtesy of *It's All In The Mind: The Life and Legacy of Larry Stephens* by Julie Warren, published by Unbound

Larry Stephens

By David Steer

'Lawrence Geoffrey 'Larry' Stephens was an incredibly talented musician, artist and BBC radio scriptwriter, best remembered for co-writing *The Goon Show* with Spike Milligan.

Larry was a Primrose Hill resident: he and his wife Diana lived in the basement flat at 108A Regent's Park Road, opposite the Queens pub, from 1951. There is no blue plaque on the building, but he does deserve to be remembered.

Born in West Bromwich in 1923, he trained as an accountant and distinguished himself as a jazz pianist before the onset of World War II, during which he served as a Commando captain.

Following his discharge he relocated to London and began writing for British comedian Tony Hancock before Hancock became well known. This led to further work for a number of popular shows, comedians and entertainers, including Arthur Askey, Jon Pertwee, Dick Emery, Dickie Valentine, Kenneth Horne, Derek Roy and Charles Hawtrey.

Larry and Tony became great friends, with Larry performing best man duties at the comedian's first wedding. In turn, Hancock and his new wife Cicely were witnesses at Larry's marriage to Diana Forster a few days later. Both brides were models for the French fashion house Lanvin.

Hancock introduced Larry to a group of writers and comedians he knew, which included Spike Milligan. Larry shared their sense of humour and began to collaborate with Spike on an act they were devising which would become *The Goon Show*. The series was first broadcast in May 1951 with a script credited to Spike Milligan with assistance from an ex-Commando, Larry Stephens.

Larry represented himself and Spike in all dealings with the BBC; however, despite the close trust between the two, their personal and working relationship could be fractious and prone to periods of falling out. The demand to keep churning out comedy became a burden and Spike was often off ill, leaving Larry to write the bulk of the scripts. Larry too was feeling the pressure. In addition to *The Goons* he was contributing to a number of other shows and projects. He suffered PTSD from his war years, was susceptible to mood swings and began to rely on alcohol to help ease the stress, resulting in a nervous breakdown. His doctor told him he had the highest blood pressure he had ever seen, and if he gave up drink and cigarettes he might live for a year.

Larry took this advice seriously, and although he did make significant changes to his lifestyle he continued to work all hours on *The Goon Show* plus a number of other writing commitments. One evening, following the recording of *The Goons*, he suffered a cerebral hemorrhage brought on by hypertension, and died shortly after. He was just 35 years old.

Tragically, all of Larry's scripts were thrown away a few years after his death, and only a small proportion of the *Goon Show* episodes Larry wrote have survived. Consequently we will probably never know the true extent of his work and his influence. To find out more about this local scriptwriter, do read the excellent book, *It's All In The Mind: The Life and Legacy of Larry Stephens* by Julie Warren.

David Steer gave a talk about Larry Stephens for the Primrose Hill Community Association's Wednesday Walks. The meet point is by the entrance to the Hill on the corner of Regent's Park Road and Primrose Hill Road at 10.30am. Starting on 9 June, the walks move to Thursday morning. Newcomers are welcome.

Sign up for the PHCA bulletin for details of each week's walk, at **www.phca.cc/subscribe**

Primrose Hill Quiz

Test your local history knowledge with this quiz by Bernard George.
Answers on p 28

1	For over a century there was only one substantial building in the area. What was it?	6	Fitzroy Road is named after Charles Fitzroy, the third Lord Southampton, who formerly owned the area. What does the name Fitzroy mean?
2	Why did the hill become known for a time in the late 17th century as Greenberry Hill?	7	Apart from Lord Southampton, which famous institution was the other big landowner in the area?
3	When was the canal completed (within 20 years)?	8	Which revolutionary socialist, businessman and philosopher lived at 122 Regent's Park Road from 1870 to 1894?
4	Until the mid-20th century, the area to the south-east of the hill was known as Chalk Farm. Where does the name Chalk Farm originate?	9	How did a zebra, an ass and her foal manage to escape from the zoo 80 years ago?
5	When was the Chalk Farm farmland auctioned off, turning the area to residential use (to within 10 years)?	10	Which Beatles song was inspired by Paul McCartney encountering a man at dawn on Primrose Hill?

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THE MOST IMPORTANT DAY IN THE HISTORY OF PRIMROSE HILL

BY MARTIN SHEPPARD

Wednesday 12 August 1840, when the freehold of the whole area was sold up at auction, was the most important day in the history of Primrose Hill. The plan laid down in the auction map, with its wide roads, has left an extremely strong mark on the area. By Primrose Hill, I mean the houses and streets and other buildings rather than the hill itself, though this was also involved.

Paradoxically, the main event of the most important day in the history of Primrose Hill did not happen near Primrose Hill itself, but in Bishopsgate. It took place at the London Tavern, a well-known venue for large dinners, auctions and business meetings. Under the hammer of George Robins, the leading auctioneer of the day, the freehold of most of the third Lord Southampton's London estate was sold up in a three-day auction. On Monday 10 August, Lord Southampton's land to the east of the Hampstead Road and Gospel Oak was sold. The next day it was his land in Highgate. Finally, on Wednesday 12 August it was the turn of the area now known as Primrose Hill village, but then called Chalk Farm.

Although the sale also included existing houses in Parkway and Camden Town, the main attraction consisted of the freehold of two-acre building plots on what were then known as Chalk Farm Fields. There were fifty lots on offer to the west of the newly built railway, and another nine between what later became Oval Road and Gloucester Crescent.

The auctioneers' own copies of the sale catalogue are in the London Metropolitan Archives, with the prices reached and the names, signatures and addresses of the buyers. In all, the day's sale realised £40,698, despite the withdrawal of some of the houses in Camden Town. In addition, just before the sale, the crown agreed to buy six lots, numbers 229 to 234, to add to Primrose Hill Park, which it had recently acquired by exchange with Eton College for Crown lands and houses in Eton, which the college did not own. For these and one more lot, number 237, the crown paid £2,284.



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PRIMROSE HILL BECAME A MIXED AREA, AN IDENTITY IT HAS KEPT TO THIS DAY

If these lots had not been bought by the Crown, their buyers would have built houses looking out onto the park, blocking the view of the hill from Regent's Park Road, Albert Terrace and part of Prince Albert Road. The Crown also agreed to allow Eton to build Primrose Hill Road. Without these arrangements, Primrose Hill would have been largely hidden. The Crown's other lot, number 237, became the site of St Mark's Church.

Because all the lots were sold freehold, the area was no longer controlled by an estate office. While this may have made impossible any planned large-scale development, such as that on the Eyre Estate in St John's Wood, in the long run it saved much of Primrose Hill from the wholesale redevelopment seen on the Eton Estate between Chalk Farm and Swiss Cottage in the 1960s.

Because the auction lots were sold freehold, the buyers could also decide what use to make of their newly acquired property. They were not prevented from turning their lots into workshops or factories. Primrose Hill developed villas and terraces interspersed with a wide range of businesses, notably those to do with furniture, especially the piano trade, and the railway. Free from control by an estate office, with multiple freeholders owning their own buildings, Primrose Hill became a mixed area, an identity it has kept to this day. Wednesday 12 August 1840 was therefore Primrose Hill's Independence Day.



The Master Carpenter who Scored a Goal at Wembley

By The Mole on The Hill
Photographs by Sarah Louise Ramsay

Grandad, what did you do during lockdown?

Not a lot, lass. Just kept looking around, observing like. See that window down there, in Oldfield. In there you can see all kinds of models. The man who lives there, he's a master carpenter and he spent lockdown making those models.

Is he a nice man, Grandad?

Oh aye. Do anything for anyone. He's one of the best volunteers in Primrose Hill.

That man is Phil Reavey, age 71, who has lived in Primrose Hill for over thirty years and at Oldfield for ten.

Phil was born in Manchester, then moved to Birmingham in his early teens to finish his education. Was that a success? Depends how you look at it. One O Level for Woodwork is hardly a triumph, but he did acquire a deep love of theatre, which was the making of him.

"When I was at school in Birmingham it wasn't so good, but I got on very well with my art teacher; him and the headmaster were into amateur dramatics and they took me along. I worked on the scenery and set, and they did the acting. It was strange seeing the headmaster in this new light. We had a different relationship in the theatre. First names. I remember they were doing *The Crucible* and he was the Prosecutor. I loved it there and I knew it was what I wanted to do."

After that experience in Birmingham, Phil was determined he would work in the theatre; he went to Salisbury Playhouse and more or less refused to leave until they offered him a job at six bob a week.

"I was the chief cook and bottle-washer there. In the mornings I'd get the boiler going, make the tea and help with anything that needed doing. In the afternoons I'd be in the workshop making the scenery. Remember, it was a rep company, so we'd have three shows going in a week. In the evenings I'd set up the show, put the props out, help the electrician."

From Salisbury, Phil moved to London, working on various shows as stagehand. It was all word of mouth. There was a pub where the stagehands met and heard about which shows were coming up. Each move meant more money: the Watford Palace, the Liverpool Playhouse, the Glasgow Citizens' Theatre, and then on to The Old Vic where he was not only a set-builder but day-man. For this he did have an interview. He'd heard they were looking for people so he went along and asked if anything was going. One of his jobs was to stand in the wings and tap Laurence Olivier on the shoulder when he was due to go on. Except that one matinee Olivier wasn't there and Phil had to dash to number one dressing room, haul the great man out and get him on stage, just in time.

"I loved it at The Vic. This was the time they were building the National Theatre and I was one of six stagehands responsible for the move. It was a bit chaotic: industrial action, the revolve not working. By this time I was a master carpenter and in charge of a crew, so I was management and not affected by the strike. The money was good and we worked a complicated system that gave us time to work on corporate events that were just getting big. I would get a crew together and send them off; then I realised I was working as an agent, so I decided to go into it full-time."

Once he'd left the theatre, Phil became a freelance carpenter for numerous conferences, exhibitions and trade shows. His work took him across Europe and to Australia and South Africa. Looking back, he picks out significant moments.

It was while he was at The Open Space in Tottenham Court Road that he got arrested: "We were showing Andy Warhol's film *Flesh*. It featured nudity and an erect penis, but Thelma Holt had run it past John Trevelyan, the film censor, and he said it would be all right if we made ourselves into a film club. Sounds OK, except that one night a load of coppers came storming down the stairs: house lights on, 'You're nicked', and we're all in Albany Street nick. I'd managed to give Thelma a call, and at about one in the morning she arrived with John Trevelyan in his dressing gown and pyjamas, and John Mortimer. It took them about twenty minutes to get us out. In the end we were fined £20 for having the handrails too low. Didn't matter though; in two days we had another copy of the film and we ran it for another four weeks."



One of his jobs was to stand in the wings and tap Laurence Olivier on the shoulder when he was due to go on

One of the highlights of Phil's career was *Cats*, where he installed what was then the biggest revolve. It was considered pioneering, with a section of the stalls mounted onto the revolve. There was also *Evita*, *Tell Me on a Sunday* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*; and then there was Live Aid at Wembley Stadium.

"Live Aid was brilliant. It was so relaxed. I was in charge of the revolve, the biggest in Europe, which was in pieces in a Blackfriars warehouse. We had five days to set up, and before they put the tarp over the pitch the scaffolders played the stagehands at football. We made sure everyone scored a goal.

"The revolve was in three segments: one in front of the audience with the band that was performing, one to the left where a band was leaving, and one to the right where the next band was getting ready. Every 17 minutes 47 seconds I had to press a button and turn the revolve. Before I did that I had to hear three whistles to let me know all was clear. If there'd been fingers or cables in the way, they would have been trashed. Backstage they'd built a replica of the Hard Rock Café for the musicians and I had a pass. It was like being in Madame Tussaud's, except that all the stars were moving and talking."

In the mid-seventies Phil got a call from Joe Aveline: he'd worked with him at the National Theatre, and now he was asking if he'd be interested in becoming operations manager at the ICA. There, on one memorable night, he played Omar Sharif at backgammon.

"Sir Roland Penrose, who founded the ICA, decided to have a backgammon fundraiser. He invited all his famous friends, including Omar Sharif. Players paid £250 to be part of a round-robin, where everyone played everyone else. At one point Omar didn't have a partner, so Muggins was nominated to play him. I let him win, of course."





There were some exhibitions that raised eyebrows: the 'Dirty Nappy' exhibition (officially Mary Kelly's *Post Partum Document* of 1976), for example, which had framed dirty nappies with notes that described what the child had been eating; and the *White on White* exhibition, which was simply picture after picture that were, well, white. One day a complaint was made by one of the artists that his picture had been hung upside down. Phil is not aware of how that was resolved.

At the Man Ray exhibition, one piece entitled *Obstruction* consisted of carefully balanced and interconnected coat-hangers hanging from the ceiling. Later, the piece was given to Sir Roland Penrose. His son, Anthony, discovered the hangers in an attic after his death: "We found this cardboard box of lovely coat-hangers so we started to use them. We did so for many years. But I could never understand why they all had holes drilled in them. Suddenly one day the penny dropped. So I had to go around all our cupboards picking them out, reassembling them."

Which brings us to the big question: Is it art? You might well ask. Are the coat-hangers artistically dangling from the ceiling of Phil's flat an 'homage' to Man Ray? Or maybe they are the same coat-hangers that Man Ray used? And would there be any difference if they are? And what about the walls of Phil's flat? Are the brightly coloured rectangles bordered in black any different from Mondrian's *Math Lesson Plan*? If Phil opened his flat to the public and charged £70 a visit with a gin and tonic at £10, no doubt the visit would be considered immersive theatre. Answers, please, to the editor.

Grandad, is it true that Mr Reavey left school at fifteen with one O Level and then went on to be the best stagehand ever and travelled all over the world and earned lots of money?

Aye, lass, that's right.

Then why does the government make kids spend all their time doing tests and getting ready for tests? I think they should be singing and dancing and learning to do art and acting, and then they could leave school and have a wonderful time like Mr Reavey.

You might be right there, love.

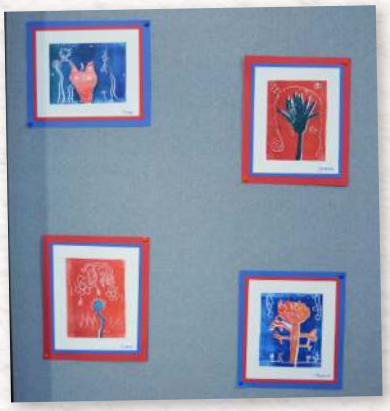
Primrose Hill LAUGHS



"Come in, hang up your coat, and I'll tell you all about my lockdown project."

St Paul's School Art Exhibition

St Paul's CE Primary School recently held an art exhibition, featuring the work of pupils from Reception to Year 6 (4 to 11 years).
Enjoy their creative work, especially the views from the top of Primrose Hill!























Answers to the Quiz

1. The Chalk Farm Tavern, since 1992 home to the Lemonia restaurant.
2. In 1679 three Irish labourers called Green, Berry and Hill were hanged on Primrose Hill for the murder of a magistrate, Sir Edmund Berry Godfrey. Godfrey's strangled body had been found on the hill the previous year, and his death attributed to a Catholic plot. Green, Berry and Hill were later exonerated, and the man who testified against them convicted of perjury.
3. 1816 (one point for 1796–1836).
4. It is a corruption of Chalcot Farm. The area was known as Chalcots as far back as the 12th century.
5. August 1840 (one point for 1830–1850).
6. Literally 'son of the King', but more pertinently, 'illegitimate son of the King'. Charles II had 13 illegitimate children by seven women, and called them all Fitzroy. Charles Fitzroy was descended from one such.
7. Eton College. This is reflected in road names like Eton Road, Oppidans Road and King Henry's Road: an oppidan is an Etonian pupil who boards in town; and Henry VI founded the college.
8. Friedrich Engels. There is a blue plaque on the building.
9. The zoo was hit by bombs.
10. 'The Fool on the Hill', as recounted by Alistair Taylor in Yesterday: The Beatles Remembered.

How Did You Do?

8–10 points: you are Martin Sheppard, author of *Primrose Hill, A History*.
5–7 points: congratulations, you are a Primrose Hillbilly.
2–4 points: you are a Primrose Sillybilly.
0–1 points: welcome to Primrose Hill; we hope you will be very happy here.

Answer to Photo Quiz *p 15*



The picture was taken in 1978 in Ainger Road, near the junction with Erskine Road. Here's how the scene looks now.
If you have old photos of the area, please send them to bernardgeorge@blueyonder.co.uk.



Photograph by Luisa Starling

Manna Reopens

Primrose Hill's vegan restaurant, Manna, has reopened its doors after having been closed for a number of years. The premises have been completely refurbished, and now feature a new entrance and vegan bar, a new kitchen – and a whole new team.

Manna has a reputation stretching back to 1967, when the restaurant on Erskine Road was one of London's only fully plant-based dining options. It offers a natural, organic, seasonal menu, working to the mantra 'You are what you eat'. Everything is made in house, including the sauces, breads and pastries, from UK ingredients as much as possible. Environmental impact and recycling food are foremost considerations. Star items on the menu include Manna's full English breakfast, a nutritious Buddha bowl, a newly launched Sunday roast, and the extremely popular bangers and mash.

Manna's new online delicatessen offers pastries, breads, cakes and sweet or savoury treats, which are all baked fresh in house. Store items such as ice-cream, honey, jams and tea-infused juices, as well as very tasty dog biscuits – all vegan – are also available to click and collect.

www.mannalondon.co.uk
Check for opening times before booking: 07788 835892

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Funds go to aid St Mary's church – a vital base for local outreach services to vulnerable people

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Hello, Primrose Hill!

Film maker Gurinder Chadha hosted a celebration of Indian dance, music, food and film at the Primrose Hill Community Centre in early May. D-Style Dance provided a live performance, and a dance class was led by Honey Kalaria. Food was provided by Punjab restaurant.
Funds raised will go to the Primrose Hill Community Association's Neighbourhood Nosh initiative.

Photographs by Petar Savic













In a selfie snapping, like-seeking world, there are still those who commission portraits

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