

**De Beauvoir**

ASSOCIATION

## Newsletter / June 2010

Sponsored by the An-Viet Foundation and the Huong-Viet Restaurant, 12-14 Englefield Road, London N1 4LS

# Party in the Park

Saturday 10 July  
2-5pm  
De Beauvoir Square

Free entertainment for children  
and fun for adults, too.

Face painting, bouncy castle, books  
and toys for children, magician, games,  
craft activities, music, refreshments  
and much more.



**MURPHY**

As you see, our party is on Saturday 10 July in De Beauvoir Square. Again we have to thank the Benyon Estate for generously supporting us – and Murphy who are providing the very convenient “convenience”.

We are getting help from Tesco and Waitrose, too.

This time we will have four face painters so we hope no child (or Police Community Support Officer) will be without a decorative face on the afternoon. As in previous years we have a bouncy castle, a free book and toy stall for children as well as books for adults, cakes, Pimms, a magician, music, a raffle and the popular tombola plus some other new delights.

Each child will also receive a Goody Bag.

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## **PARTY IN THE PARK – continued from page 1**

All the members of the planning committee and party volunteers will be meeting in the Square on 29 June at 7.30pm to finalise plans. If you would like to find out more or even help on the day we would love to see you there. Bring a picnic – or an umbrella!

### **NOW TWO APPEALS!**

#### **CHILDREN'S BOOKS AND TOYS STALL**

CAN YOUR CHILDREN HELP by donating books and toys they no longer need? Books must be in good condition and toys, games, puzzles, and sets should be complete, clean, and working properly. If you

have any suitable items please contact Jenny at 24 De Beauvoir Square or email [jenny@jennytopper.com](mailto:jenny@jennytopper.com). We can collect or you can deliver to us from 30 June–9 July.

#### **SECOND HAND BOOKS, DVDs AND CDs**

Always one of our best moneymakers with proceeds going towards funding the party next year. If you have any to donate, you can deliver them to Richard Turnbull at 114 De Beauvoir Road, Tel: 7241 1582, Mob: 07847 590 473 or email [rturnbull@rimbaud.demon.co.uk](mailto:rturnbull@rimbaud.demon.co.uk). Alternatively, in early July, to Jane and Stephen King, 72 Mortimer Road, Tel: 7254 4843. Collection can be arranged.

## **AROUND THE TOWN**

#### **THE ROSEMARY BRANCH – our award-winning local theatre**

2 Shepperton Road, N1 3DT

[www.rosemarybranch.co.uk](http://www.rosemarybranch.co.uk)

Tel: 7249 4896

24-hour box office. Tickets £8–£16

#### **THE LEONARDO QUESTION – Caroline Wiseman**

An enlightening, entertaining and downright funny journey through the story of modern art. Meet Picasso, Duchamp, Pollock, Warhol, Hirst, Emin and the legendary Peggy Guggenheim as they re-enact the story to date in their actual words. Until 24 June.

**POST-SHOW ART FORUMS –** Converse with a leading contemporary art thinker over a light supper and glass of wine in our Pink Room for only £10 extra.

Thursday 17 June – Michael Paraskos

Friday 18 June – William Packer

**SUNDAY ROAST – SPECIAL OFFER** on 27 June

£15 for two people, including pudding!

#### **HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD**

A puppet show for adult theatre audiences, created to raise awareness about children and pornography. 29 June–12 July.

#### **THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON**

119 Balls Pond Road. Tel: 7275 7640

[www.thedukeofwellingtonN1.com](http://www.thedukeofwellingtonN1.com)

[info@thedukeofwellingtonN1.com](mailto:info@thedukeofwellingtonN1.com)

**FOOTBALL WORLD CUP –** all England games will be shown and many of the other major matches.

#### **CINEMA CLUB**

1st and 3rd Sundays every month.

Films start at 8pm, free entry.

#### **ENDLESS SUMMER, 4 July**

Two young surfers who travel across the world in search of the perfect wave.

#### **NEWPORT JAZZ FESTIVAL, 18 July**

1958 – Thelonious Monk, Chico Hamilton and Louis Armstrong among others. We will also be playing some of the best recordings in the festival's history before and after the film.

**THE DUKE'S REAL ALE FESTIVAL** will take place from 22 July to 25 July. The focus will be on ales from the four regions of Yorkshire, with over 30 real ales and a selection of real ciders.

#### **THE LIGHT YOGA SPACE**

Unit B, 100 De Beauvoir Road, N1 4EN,

[www.lightyogospace.co.uk](http://www.lightyogospace.co.uk)

[lightyogospace@gmail.com](mailto:lightyogospace@gmail.com)

7254 9697

The Light Yoga Space is a peaceful and welcoming yoga studio tucked away in the De Beauvoir Road warehouses. We offer a timetable of Sivananda Yoga. Classes for all levels. Everyone welcome.

*(continued on page 7)*

## ARTICLE FOUR – RIGHT DIRECTION?

Everyone knows and appreciates that De Beauvoir is a Conservation Area and many people are aware that a large part of the area is under an Article 4 Direction. However some residents may be unclear about how this directly affects them. Conservation areas are not open-air museums; it is accepted that communities will need to change over time and buildings may therefore have to be extended or altered, but any new developments should enhance the area and be sympathetic to the various qualities that make the place special. In order to ensure that the character of the area is not diminished, residents must obtain planning permission from Hackney if they wish to fell or prune a tree, erect a satellite dish, demolish a building on their land or erect a new building or extension. If you have business premises, you also need planning consent for advertising signs.

The Article 4 Direction was introduced in 2008, principally to deal with concerns over removing garden walls and paving front gardens to make off-street parking. In practice, it restricts permitted development rights, so many of the things we used to be able to do to our land and the outside of our buildings, and often take for granted, now require planning consent. As a result you must make a planning application if you wish to change the windows or front door of your house; paint the

exterior of any building; remove chimneys or chimney pots; construct a porch; construct a patio or other area of hard surface; erect or remove railings, fences or garden walls and install or replace a satellite antenna. The good news is that there is no fee for these applications and in some cases a phone call to the planning officers may be all that is necessary. It may seem rather draconian but De Beauvoir has such an interesting mix of houses, many with large gardens for such an urban area, flats, shops and commercial buildings, wide streets and open spaces. The special architectural and landscape features which make De Beauvoir unique are documented in the Conservation Area Appraisal ([www.hackney.gov.uk/ep-conservation-design-trees-ca-deb.htm](http://www.hackney.gov.uk/ep-conservation-design-trees-ca-deb.htm)). Minor alterations to our properties may seem insignificant but over time these incremental changes can alter the special character of the area and the Article 4 Direction is designed to protect against this.

Enquiries from residents in connection with the Article 4 Direction should be directed to the team mailbox ([conservation.design@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:conservation.design@hackney.gov.uk)) or to the Duty Planning Officer on 8356 8062, who will then direct the call to someone in the team.

**Fiona Darbyshire**

**DBA**

## CONNECTED AT LAST – THE EAST LONDON LINE

The new rail line linking Hackney to the Tube finally opened on 23 May. It runs from Dalston Junction to West Croydon. Haggerston station, serving De Beauvoir, is in Lee Street, next to Tesco in Kingsland Road. Trains run from 0540 to midnight Monday–Saturday and 0700–2330 on Sundays. It joins the Underground at Whitechapel (District and Hammersmith and City) and Canada Water (Jubilee) and the DLR at Shadwell. An extension to Highbury and Islington is promised for next year and to Clapham Junction in 2012.

The other news on the transport front is that the new bus station at Dalston Junction station will be handling just one route because Transport for

London has realised what campaigners told it long ago – that the thing was poorly conceived and using it would just slow everyone down.

Sadly De Beauvoir's 76 bus route has had to be diverted without proper planning because works near the bus station mean there is no right turn into Stamford Road. Hackney has admitted to us it was "regrettable" that the new route for the 76 was not sorted out earlier. It now goes south to Downham Road where it turns right, rejoining the route at Southgate Road. The plan is for the 76 eventually to use Englefield Road in both directions, but no one knows when that will be.

**Paul Bolding**

**DBA**

## DOWNHAM ROAD – READY FOR CHANGE

WITH MORE CHANGE DUE FOR DOWNHAM ROAD, IT'S TIME TO SUPPORT US AND BOLSTER THE COMMUNITY SPIRIT, SAY THE LOCALS.

"They call it progress," smiles Sharon Baker, who has worked at The Duke of York pub at 33 Downham Road for the past few years. She's referring to all the recent changes there and those due to take place in 2011. With apartment blocks springing up regularly, and building due to commence on another at the Kingsland Road end next year, more change is afoot.

There are upsides and downsides to this. The upside is the influx of young working professionals in the area, more potential for local businesses and a boost to house prices. But it also inevitably means more competition from big chain stores and possibly the death of Downham Road's neighbourhood spirit altogether.

Sharon (below) has noticed it in the pub. With the no-smoking ban and more supermarkets selling alcohol at prices they can't compete with, she admits: "It's killed trade." The Caribbean food they serve up daily means it's still a popular place for some locals, but times are tough. "There are fewer regulars coming in because of the recession, people have less money and so there's less community spirit around," she says.



him smiling though, like his regular customers during the week, his busy Saturdays, and the horns tooting hello each day as locals pass. "When I have a day off, people always ask 'Where were you yesterday?' And when I slipped over and was out for ten weeks, people phoned up asking if I'd retired or gone on a cruise! So it is missed," he laughs.

Dave's constant companion for the last 10 years, Gunner – an Alsatian/collie cross that he bought at



Dave, (above) who has run the Fruit & Veg stall at the corner of Southgate Road and Downham Road for the past fourteen years, has noticed it too. "Just six, seven years ago, I had three people working here. Now it's just me," he says, fixing his punnets of fresh strawberries. Along with increased competition from Tesco and Sainsbury's, the double yellow lines alongside his stall now mean it's difficult for people to pull in off the road, so he's reliant on passing custom.

A few things keep



Battersea Dogs' Home 10 years ago – sadly had to be put to sleep a month ago and has left a great hole in his life. Perhaps after a holiday in Egypt, Dave will be tempted back to Battersea and a new friend. So many appealing dogs there longing for a loving home. (Dave has generously given wonderful baskets of fruit as raffle prizes to the DBA and the Gardening Club many times over the years. CL)

Mr. Paresh Patel, who has run Pame Stores with his wife Pame (opposite, bottom) on the corner of Mortimer Road and Downham Road for the past twenty-six years, has a similar tale. Business is tough, he admits, with more corner shops opening up and serving until all hours, and customers increasingly buying online. "People are getting everything delivered to their door or stepping off the buses straight into Tesco," he explains. "We have always loved working in this community but it's hard to compete now. We have an Oyster card machine, lottery machine, and a wide selection of newspapers, magazines and food but we are struggling."



Change has had an even greater impact for some businesses though. Mick Berry (below) has run Essential Rubber, the tyre specialist for motorbikes at 27 Downham Road, for over nine years. But at the end of the year, he'll have to close shop. The building is being demolished to make way for the new apartment block.

Until now, Downham Road has been a great location for Mick's business as it is north London's only tyre specialist, dealing with new tyres, punctures and any type of repair. He's never had a shortage of customers. "We see bankers, doctors, plumbers, everyone. As long as they ride a bike, we see them," he laughs, adding that he hopes they will stick with him when they find a new location.

Iraqis Harith Abraham (above, right) and Abdul Jassian (above, left), run the computer repair shop next door at 25 Downham Road, and are staying positive about all the changes, hoping it will be good for business in the end. Specialising in laptop, PC and Mac repairs, they have been in Downham Road 14 years, with most of their business coming from the locals.



Although the shop has avoided demolition, they are used to building work happening in the area now and are determined not to be put out. "The worst part is the dust and noise," says Harith, but they usually build very fast. The last building went up in just six months. "The area is improving and appealing to young professionals, so hopefully it's a change for the better."

- The Duke of York (7254 2715) – open 12pm–1am daily
- Fruit & Veg – open from 9am, Tuesday–Saturday
- Pame Stores (7254 2802) – open early until late daily
- Essential Rubber (7241 0055) – open 8am–5.30pm, Monday– Saturday, and to 8pm on Wednesday
- Computer Repair Shop (7923 1011) – open 9.30am–5.30pm, Monday and Thursday, and 10.30am–5.30pm on other days

**Barbara Walshe**

**DBA**

# THE DE BEAUVOIR GARDENING CLUB

The De Beauvoir Gardening Club was started in 1978 by Jude Moraes, a notable landscape designer who lived in De Beauvoir Square. I joined in 1985 when the Club was under the auspices of two awesome ladies – Susan Lynn and Joan Ward. Legendary figures then were the Larsens, Sam Eatley and Mary Chevalier. Joan and Stan Miller were also very early members and winners of many Club trophies over the years. Thirty years on, Joan is now an honorary member. Not forgotten either are Doritie Kettlewell, Lynn Kent, Kathy Lynam and Nancy Korman (long-time Treasurer and multi-winner of Domestic Delights). There are many others as well but no room to mention everyone. You can read about Jude Moraes, who sadly died in 1993, on the internet at [www.independent.co.uk/news/people/obituary-jude-moraes-1480306.html](http://www.independent.co.uk/news/people/obituary-jude-moraes-1480306.html). There are quite a few mentions of De Beauvoir in her obituary.

In the 1980s Sue and Andy Windross (with considerable fortitude) kindly let the Club hold the annual Flower Show in St. Peter's vicarage garden, where the erection of a large marquee was a major undertaking. When the garden was built on, the Show transferred to Northchurch Terrace. There were also back and front garden competitions (where are the plate and trowel trophies now? I wonder) Trips abroad were organised by Jane Chisholm, who worked for a most prestigious Kensington travel agency, but managed to get good deals for visits to gardens in Holland, France, Ireland, Italy and the north of England, including that of the redoubtable Mrs. Kay (all those on that trip will remember her very well!) And of course, the annual coach trip to a couple of gardens and a nursery within striking distance of London still continues. Coach drivers are quite mesmerised by the many plants purchased and stowed in the bowels of their coaches with the

purchasers staggering home afterwards – somehow. How many places in central London can boast a gardening club and a flower show?

The Club now needs some younger people to join in and carry the baton (or multipurpose compost). It isn't all allotments (not easy to come by) and it is surprising what flowers, fruit and vegetables are produced in our back gardens and displayed at the Show every year. Occasionally we gardeners find plants die but, as a great Culford Road friend of mine



commented, "When you lose a plant it means you can buy something better instead." How right she was. I guiltily think of the many plants that have passed through my hands into the great nirvana – enriching the soil of course, in the process.

The Club meets in the crypt of

St. Peter's on the first Tuesday of the month at 8pm. Annual subscriptions are: Single £20; Couple £30; Concessions £15 and £20. Below is the programme for the next few months.

- 6 July – Local Garden Walkabout. Meet at St. Peter's Church at 7pm
- 3 August – Summer Picnic (venue to be confirmed)
- 12 September – Annual Flower and Produce Show in Northchurch Terrace
- 5 October – Talk "The Great Vegetable Plot" by David Cheston

If you are interested in joining the Club email either Elizabeth Hatt ([hatt.elizabeth@googlemail.com](mailto:hatt.elizabeth@googlemail.com)) or Dee Carter ([dee.carter@onetel.net](mailto:dee.carter@onetel.net)). New members will be most welcome.

**Carol Lee**

**DBA**

## AROUND THE TOWN – continued from page 2

### ACUPUNCTURE AT ST. PETER'S

[www.thesteppingstonesproject.co.uk](http://www.thesteppingstonesproject.co.uk)

Come and enjoy acupuncture for a wide range of conditions including back pain and headaches  
Now open Monday evenings.

Call Emma or Amelia to book an appointment,  
07954 371 758.

### THE WARRIORS

Taking inspiration from England's win in the 20–20 World Cup, the Mighty, Mighty De Beauvoir Warriors are preparing for the season ahead with practise net sessions at Lords. A fixture list of four to five games throughout the summer is currently being finalised, to be held in Victoria Park or Regents Park. New players of all ages and abilities are always welcome to join us in what will hopefully be a match-winning 2010. Please contact either Russell Toone (Russell.Toone@sothebys.com) or Kevin Read (ReadKevin@gmail.com).

### SKYWAY COMMUNITY COACHING

FREE Bike Maintenance Workshops every Thursday for three weeks (6.30–7.45pm). Boys and girls aged 13–21 have the chance to work on bikes provided by SkyWay with the opportunity to take the bike home if the workshop is completed and the bike restored to a roadworthy standard.

To register, contact us on 7729 6970 or email [info@skyway.uk.com](mailto:info@skyway.uk.com).

### LOCKNER AND KINGSGATE ESTATES

Lockner and Kingsgate TRA is becoming more and more active. At the request of residents on Lockner we have managed to stall a plan to put gates around the estate and have upgraded the children's playgrounds. We recently had a successful and fun theatre trip to see Sister Act at the London Palladium, and will have a free children's evening storytelling on 9 July. Future events are in the

pipeline. If you would like information first-hand, join your TRA!

Come along to our next Tenants and Residents Association Meeting on 30 June, 7.00–8.30pm at the Lockner Community Flat, 23 Blandford Court. Further information and agenda from [locknerkingsgate@googlemail.com](mailto:locknerkingsgate@googlemail.com).

### THE DE BEAUVOIR ESTATE TRA

(Tenants and Residents Association)  
Rose Lipman Community Hall  
email: [debeauvoirtra@btinternet.com](mailto:debeauvoirtra@btinternet.com)  
Tel: 7249 4896, Mob: 07850 938812  
Office open Tuesday–Thursday 10.30am–12.30pm.  
Hall and committee room for hire.

Officers elected on 26 April 2010:

Natasha Hodson – Chair; Cindy Diminieux – Vice-Chair; Lesley Thompson – Secretary; David Hitchcock – Treasurer

World Food Evening, 19 June, Rose Lipman Hall, 6–10pm. All welcome (children, too). Bring a national dish to share.

We welcome local or official volunteers with ideas to manage new activities:  
just ring us or call in to the office.  
Natasha Hodson, Chair TRA

### THE DE BEAUVOIR UNDERGROUND

To join the DBU you can buy membership from The De Beauvoir Deli Co., the Scolt Head, the Duke of Wellington, the Northgate and the Talbot. The first DBU run event, to raise money for the development of St. Peter's crypt as a community centre, will be on 22 July. For details please see [www.debeauvoirunderground.com](http://www.debeauvoirunderground.com).

**DBA**

Produced by the De Beauvoir Association  
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07962 422149

Printed by Hanway Print Centre  
[www.hanwayprint.com](http://www.hanwayprint.com)

Designed by TyphoonCP  
[www.typhooncp.com](http://www.typhooncp.com)

# An-Việt



12–14 Englefield Road,  
London N1 4LS

The An-Viet Foundation (AVF) was established in 1982 to help the longest-established Vietnamese community in the UK to integrate into British society. An-Viet means “well settled”.

For the Vietnamese community, we offer:

- Advice on welfare benefits
- A service for the elderly
- A nail and beauty training course to Diploma level 2 and NVQ level 2 that has been followed by 55 students. Ninety per cent of them have found work. We are hoping to expand the project to offer more advanced courses in the future.
- The fostering of Vietnamese history, traditions and culture.

For the local community, we offer:

- The Huong-Viet Restaurant, which is part of the An-Viet Foundation. It serves good food at a good price.

“Four stars. I’ll be back with friends!” (welovelocal.com)

“I would thoroughly recommend this place. It’s good value and the food is the best Vietnamese I’ve ever had.” (London-eating.co.uk)

“You can have a ‘great, cheap Bring Your Own night out’” (hardens.com)

We would also like to establish a South-East Asia Research Centre and a fitness centre and nursery for local people. This depends on our obtaining a long lease from Hackney Council, something we’ve been waiting for for 17 years. The Property Manager of the London Borough of Hackney has put our case to the Cabinet, but so far nothing has happened. Please help by emailing our local councillors (Robert.Chapman@hackney.gov.uk; Tom.Ebbutt@Hackney.gov.uk; gulay.icoz@hackney.gov.uk).

## HOW TO FIND THE DBA PARTY IN THE PARK ON 10 JULY

