



AGM and 2013/14 REPORT

We had specified a quorum of fifteen for the 16th Annual General Meeting of Friends of Carnegie Library on 20 March; happily, more than double that number attended, including four of the five former Chairs.

We began with a report on Lambeth's library service restructure. Head of Lambeth Libraries Olivia Spencer has gone and Susanna Barnes now fulfils the role. Caroline Mackie was confirmed as our full time Library Manager, and she has been joined by Assistant Librarian Miranda Broadribb. Statistics consistently show increases in this library's visits and issues. Statistics from March 2014 show the number of visits to the Carnegie was recorded at 4016, whilst the number of issues and renewals were 4466 – up by 35% and 14.7% respectively on the figures for March 2013.

Quarterly management meetings continue at Carnegie, pursuing action on outstanding Section 106 purchases, street signs (now in place) and RFID self-issue (coming this year). Charges and procedures for space hire by community groups and commercial users have been agreed.

The Friends had organised or facilitated a successful programme in 2013/14, and supported activities organised by the library service. Thanks to our Events team of Jackie, Bob and Sue, plus members who helped run craft sessions, our wonderful cake bakers, tea stall servers and garden volunteers. Our accounts show a healthy financial position.

Committee Election Former Secretary Ceres Dandridge conducted the election. The four officers and six committee members elected were:

Chair	Jeffrey Doorn	foclchair@gmail.com
Vice Chair	Eleanor Mitchiner	foclvicechair@gmail.com
Secretary	Andrew Makower	
Treasurer	Bob Goodrick	
Members	Rodney Amis	
	Sue Beynon	
	Carol Boucher	
	Nicholas Edwards	
	Elizabeth Ochagavia (Membership Sec & Garden)	
	Jackie Plumridge	

Rodney and Nicholas are welcome new additions to the committee. Frances Lamb, who had served as Newsletter Editor and Publicity, stepped down to concentrate on the Project Group; we wish her well. The Constitution allows for two co-options during the year; do come forward if you have skills to offer. Non-committee members are also welcome to help with events or other aspects of our work.

The Future As part of the Carnegie Library Project Group, we continue working to open up the library for wider community use and compatible income generation. Though we could not discuss details of current proposed options, AGM attendees debated possibilities, giving strong views on the centrality of the main library in any reconfiguration. An open meeting of the Friends was proposed in advance of public consultation on the options. To see documents related to the project that are already in the public domain go to www.friendsofcarnegielibrary.org.uk/future. Meanwhile, please ensure your Friends membership is up to date and continue to use and support our much-loved library.

Jeffrey Doorn

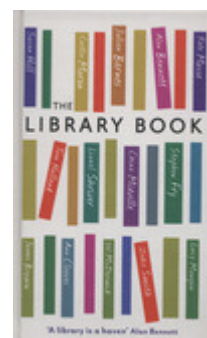
Post-AGM Update Rodney Amis has now agreed to take on the role of Newsletter Editor and Publicity. Sue Beynon has resigned from the committee; a replacement on the Events team is needed.

BOOK REVIEW

THE LIBRARY BOOK publ. by Profile Books Ltd 2012

An apt title for a book that I came across in the Carnegie one Saturday during the tea break from a gardening work session. It is a collection of memoirs, essays and stories by 23 famous writers and is published in support of libraries, with all royalties going to The Reading Agency's library programmes.

Each writer has his own approach, whether reminiscing, considering the current situation or imagining the libraries of the future. The items are sometimes moving, sometimes visionary, sometimes amusing and sometimes insightful, but each interesting in their own way.



I particularly enjoyed 'The Punk and Langside Library' by Hardeep Singh Kohli which describes the meeting between a turban and school-uniform-wearing-Catholic/Sikh Hardeep and a cockney cigarette-smoking punk, illustrating how libraries are the heartbeats of communities.

Do read 'Baffled at a Bookcase' by Alan Bennett, written in his inimitable style about libraries as places, not just facilities. He concludes that splendid new central libraries do not remove the need for a handy and local library and is ashamed that regardless of the party's proud tradition of popular education, Labour municipalities are not making more of a stand.

Seth Godin's 'The Future of the Library' makes a similar point, whilst addressing the changes that technology is bringing: 'take the world of data, combine it with the people in this community and create value'. He believes that we need librarians more than we ever did, not as 'mere clerks who guard dead paper' but as 'passionate raconteurs of information'.

Caitlin Moran thinks that libraries are 'cathedrals of the mind; hospitals of the soul; theme parks of the imagination. On a cold, rainy island, they are the only sheltered public spaces where you are not a consumer, but a citizen instead. A human with a brain and a heart and a desire to be uplifted, rather than a customer with a credit card.' On closing public libraries, she says that 'each one closed down might as well be 6,000 stickers plastered over every available surface reading: 'WE CHOOSE TO BECOME MORE STUPID AND DULL' and she wonders what will happen when the economy gets back to normal again.

I could go on but will leave the other articles by authors such as Susan Hill and Zadie Smith for you to explore next time you visit the Carnegie.

Liz Ochagavia

GARDEN & BUILDING WORKS UPDATE

When spring finally arrived the hyacinths burst on to the scene and filled the front gardens with their beautiful scent. The wallflowers that we planted back in the autumn, my favourites because of their lovely perfume and long flowering season, have now taken centre stage. The Japanese anemones are going to be next to flower with their delicate pale pink and white blooms.



You may have noticed that works have started on the railings, garden walls and roof. The fresh black paint and repointed walls look very smart and it will be wonderful to cure the leaks which have plagued the children's library. Although the scaffolders have had to cut down some of the plants in order to anchor the structure, safety is paramount. We will need extra manpower on the June 7 workday to prepare for Open Squares Weekend on June 14 so please come along [see also item on page 5].

Liz Ochagavia

LOCAL ELECTIONS

With the local elections coming up on 22nd May, representatives from Libraries for Life for Londoners (LLL) have prepared a list of suggested questions to put to candidates regarding library services. We thought it a good idea to pass them on to you here:



1. Do you visit your local libraries?
2. Have you examined the Council's library book budget?
3. Do you know how well your library service is doing from its own issues/visits figures and the comparative tables released by CIPFA in collaboration with the Department of Culture Media & Sport?
4. How important do you consider the presence of an accessible library service to be, with what it offers, to the various sections of your community?
5. Do you know if your local library, and your library service in general, fosters and contributes to literacy, reading attainment, reading for pleasure, knowledge, and information? What are the outcomes of its provision, activities, projects and events?
6. If your beliefs on the provision of a "comprehensive and efficient" library service are not in tune with the political party you represent would you be prepared to challenge and/or vote against your party?
7. How accessible are your local ward libraries to families, children, the elderly, the infirm and disabled?
8. Are you able to recommend a well-stocked, well-run, accessible library in your ward and in your borough?

CARNEGIE LIBRARY FORTHCOMING EVENTS, etc *(see also back page, for regular events, and for opening hours)*

Wednesday 7 th May 5pm	Reading with Bach (Dance performance) - Reading With Bach is a kind of excavation, a form of collision. What is it to read – to turn the page and be led into minds, bodies, objects, space, architecture and worlds, including netherworlds and otherworldly ones? (free event)
Wednesday, 21 st May 12-2.30pm	Herne Hill Road Medical Practice and Patient Participation Group (in the library garden, weather permitting) Carers' Time Come and join us for a cuppa in the run up to Carers' Week in June. Updates from Carers' Hub, Solidarity in a Crisis, your local library service and much more. Contact June at surgery to book your place (020 7737 9393) or turn up on the day
Monday 26 th May 2pm & 3.30pm	A Musical Adventure – Children's concert introducing instruments with bite-sized music. For ages 0-7. £3 per child (Adults free) Booking is essential – call 020 7926 6050
Wednesday – Friday 28 th –30 th May	Inkhead creative writing classes. Charged event. Requires booking. See http://inkhead.co.uk/courses for full details

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Wednesday May 28th (Half Term).
Doors 11am, film starts 11.15am.



Herne Hill Free Film Festival 2014 children's matinee

The Pirates! In an Adventure with Scientists! 2D
(Dir Peter Lord and Jeff Newitt, 2012, UK, Cert U, 88mins). Shiver me timbers! This Oscar-nominated animated adventure from the makers of Wallace & Gromit is a treasure chest of family fun. The Gallery, Carnegie Library. This is a free event but you need to book a place in advance through the library enquiry desk in person or by calling 020 7926 6050. Suggested age range: 5 to 11-year-olds. Children must be accompanied by an adult. To make this screening accessible for children with autism and/or sensory sensitivities we will lower the volume and not have a completely dark venue. Children will also be free to move around, make noise or take a break outside.

Fri 30th May 2.30pm

Spring Arts & Crafts for children (free event)

Saturday 7th June 10am – 4pm



Go Wild at Carnegie Library – Lambeth Libraries, as part of the Chelsea Fringe festival, are asking you all to go wild at the library. The day will start with a teddy bear's picnic. There'll be outdoor craft activities and refreshments followed by a bear themed story session with an interactive We're Going on a Bear hunt. In the afternoon there will be planting activities for children of all ages. At 2pm author Jo Schofield will be launching The Wild City Book with a session helping you create some weird and wonderful creatures in the garden. Join the Carnegie Library Friends in tending the library garden and enjoy a day dedicated to the wild side of London. (free event)

Friday 13th June 10.30am

Songs and stories with Margaret Bateson-Hill (free event)

Saturday 14th June 10am – 5pm

Open Squares Weekend (free event) [see also item on page 5]

Saturday 21st June 1 – 5pm

Ruskin Park Fete – Friends of Carnegie Library stall

CARNEGIE CHESS CLUB



**Do you play chess?
Would you like to learn?**

**Join us every Saturday
2.45 – 5pm**

Players of all levels and ages welcome

**Contact Edward
foclmembers@gmail.com**

FRIENDS OF CARNEGIE LIBRARY Gardening & Tea Afternoons First Saturday of each month.

Gardening.
No experience needed
2 - 4.30pm

Free Tea & Cake for
Participants.



Tea & Coffee Stall

Delicious Home-
made Cakes
2.30 - 4.30pm

More bakers always wanted!
Contact Brenda on 7771 1409 or
brenjon@hotmail.com

OPEN SQUARES WEEKEND EVENT

Saturday 14th June 10am – 5pm



Once again we are proud to be taking part in this well-established annual event. Over the past seven years the Friends of Carnegie Library have renovated the formerly derelict enclosed garden at the rear of the library, in co-operation with Lambeth Council and with funding from the Big Lottery Fund under the BBC Breathing Places scheme and the Metropolitan Public Gardens Association.

This year's event will include refreshments, a display on the history and development of the garden, a garden trail, conducted tours, storytelling and other children's activities.

FRIENDS OF RUSKIN PARK: STABLE BLOCK PROJECT CONSULTATION EVENTS ON 18th & 20th MAY



One of the priorities of the Friends of Ruskin Park is for the currently derelict stable block to be renovated and be turned into a sustainable building that can be used by the local community. We have recently managed to secure funding from the Heritage Lottery to conduct a feasibility study to determine the state of the building and the associated costs in renovating it. In addition, a further output of the study will be some recommended options for what the stable block can be transformed into.

We are looking for input from park users and so have set up an open consultation day to take place in the park on 18th May from 10.00 - 16.00. The focus of this day will be to get input to a number of potential options for the stable block. We are also running a public meeting on the 20th May at 19.30 at the Cambria pub (40 Kemerton Road) when we hope to make a decision on which option to go forward with in terms of conducting detailed costing and applying for renovation grants. We very much hope that as many people as possible can be involved in this exciting project for the stable block to be restored and put to good use.

Vicki Badham, FoRP

The Friends of Ruskin Park Photography Competition 2014

This year's competition is to produce an image with the theme of 'Ruskin Park Portraits'

1st Prize £50 2nd Prize £25 3rd Prize £10

Under 16's Prize: a compact camera
The closing date for entries is **Friday 27th June**

Full details and entry forms are available at the Carnegie or at www.friendsruskinpark.org.uk



Exhibition. Following the competition entrants' photographs will be hung in the Gallery at Carnegie Library throughout July.

LOCAL EVENTS

Herne Hill Society www.hernehillsociety.org.uk

Meetings are usually held on the second Wednesday of each month at Herne Hill United Church Hall, Herne Hill (junction with Red Post Hill), London SE24 9PW. Admission is free and everyone is welcome, including non-members.

We start promptly at 7:45pm (doors open at 7:30pm).

Meetings last about 2 hours, including a refreshment break.

Next meeting is on 14 May: "Elephant and Castle: A History" by Stephen Humphrey. Illustrated with an array of images, the talk will bring the rich history of this south London crossroads to life.

Open day at Herne Hill Velodrome

On Sunday 6th June 10am – 5pm there is a local residents' open day at Herne Hill Velodrome. 104 Burbage Road. See <http://dulwichonview.org.uk/2010/06/01/open-day-at-herne-hill-velodrome/> for details.

Regular events at Carnegie Library:

First Saturday of the month, 2 - 4pm:

G&T (gardening and tea!). Do some gardening and follow with free tea and cake.

First Saturday of the month, 2.30 - 4.30pm:

Friends Tea Stall.

Tea, coffee, soft drinks and delicious home-made cakes.

First Monday of the month, 7 - 8.30pm:

Book Group at Carnegie Library.

Collect the current book from the desk. For more information about the Book Club please speak to Caroline.

First and third Wednesday of the month, 10am - 12noon:

Silver Surfers. Introduction to the internet.

Every Monday, 1-2.30pm:

Carnegie Poetry Group Relax and make new friends. An opportunity to share reading and join in discussions in a friendly group

Every Monday and Wednesday **Volunteers needed.**

Ruskin Readers. One-to-one literacy tuition for adults Monday evenings, 7 – 9pm & Wednesday afternoons, 2.30 – 4.30pm Contact Caroline Knapp on 020 7274 2443 or email her at ruskinreaders@gmail.com

Every Wednesday, 10.30 – 12 noon:

Book at Breakfast. Get into reading – gives you a place to relax, a chance to make new friends and a new way to share reading. You don't have to read anything. You can simply drop in, and enjoy listening to a good story or poem.

Every Friday, 10.30am - noon:

Story time for under-5s. Children's Library. Rhymes, stories and crafts.

Every Saturday, 12 – 2.00pm:

Carnegie Craft Circle

Beginners welcome – just turn up. Knitting, sewing, tea, coffee and chat.

Every Saturday, 2.45 - 5pm:

Chess Club – Carnegie Library Gallery.

For experienced or novice players of any age.

Free entry and tuition. Email: foclmembers@gmail.com

VISIT THE LIBRARY! **FREE WI-FI!**



Don't forget 'Use it or Lose it'

188 Herne Hill Road, Herne Hill SE24 OAG

Telephone: 020 7926 6050

Email: carnegielibrary@lambeth.gov.uk

Twitter: [@LibraryCarnegie](https://twitter.com/LibraryCarnegie)

OPENING HOURS:

Mon 1pm-8pm

Wed 10am-6pm

Fri 10am-6pm

Sat 9am-5pm

BOOK ORDERING SERVICE

If the book you want is not on the shelf, use the ordering service in the library or via <http://libraries.lambeth.gov.uk/TalisPrism/>

DVDs, CDs and TAPES

The Carnegie stocks a good range of talking books, language courses etc. Also films & music CDs to rent.

INTERNET **FREE WI-FI!**

Don't forget that the Carnegie has free internet access. And now there's also Wi-Fi, using your library card and PIN number. So bring your laptop, smartphone or tablet...

INFORMATION AND EVENTS

Browse through the leaflets in the entrance hall and look out for useful information on the notice boards.

THE GALLERY SPACE

To book the space, see library staff.

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors or quoted sources and not necessarily those of the Friends' committee.

Contributions to the newsletter are always welcome. Send your letter, article or information to the editor at 2-B Sunset Road SE5 8EA.

Or email it to foclnewsletter@gmail.com Thank you.

Friends of Carnegie Library:

To contact the Friends, please either drop a note in the Friends' Red Post Tray in the library, or email foclchair@gmail.com or telephone 020 7274 3176.

Website: <http://friendsofcarnegielibrary.org.uk/>

Membership queries: : foclmembers@gmail.com

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