



## NOTICE of AGM

Notice is hereby given that the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Carnegie Library will be held at Carnegie Library, 188 Herne Hill Road, London SE24 0AG on Thursday 21st March 2013.

Doors open from 6.30pm and the formal business of the meeting will commence at 7.00pm. The quorum for the AGM is 20 members. The agenda will be provided at the meeting. Nomination forms for election as an officer or committee member can be collected beforehand from the Friends Red Tray in the library, or on the night.

New committee members are welcome. If you are interested in the Library and its wellbeing, please consider joining us (meetings are monthly, on a Monday evening).

**World Poetry Day.** We shall also celebrate World Poetry Day, which is held on 21st March every year, since it was first declared by UNESCO in 1999. The aim is to promote the reading, writing and teaching of poetry.

**Do join us. Wine and snacks from 6.30 and the meeting will start at 7pm.**

## CARNEGIE'S PHILANTHROPY

The £12,500 given to Lambeth to build our library was one benefaction out of the \$350 million donated by a great Scottish-American steel magnate whose philosophy is remembered as the "Andrew Carnegie Dictum":

- to spend the first third of one's life getting all the education one can
- to spend the next third making all the money one can
- to spend the last third giving it all away for worthwhile causes.

Carnegie firmly believed "the man who dies rich dies disgraced". In today's world of shameless bonus grabbing and tax dodging by corporate heads while hundreds of libraries close and arts & culture are starved, how many men and women are destined to die disgraced?

*Jeffrey Doorn - Chair*

## JOIN THE FRIENDS

Our library needs all the Friends it can get! We need to increase our number. Do you have a friend or neighbour who might join to support the library? If so, do please ask them. Annual sub is only £3 individual (£5 household; £1 over 60, unwaged or student). For the new membership form, either email [foclmembers@gmail.com](mailto:foclmembers@gmail.com) or pick one up from the library desk. Thank you.

# CARNEGIE LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY HUB

## Co-operative Libraries programme: slow but steady

The Friends are working together with the other Lambeth libraries' friends groups to cooperate with the Library Service in the drive to improve our libraries. Monthly meetings are held, rotating around the libraries, with Olivia Spencer, head of libraries, her senior staff and other relevant council officers. This cooperation has administrative support from the council in the shape of an officer to organise the meetings and distribute papers and minutes. Big gains 'overnight' are unlikely; instead library users can expect to see a slow but steady trickle of improvements that show we are on the right path at last.

## Community Hub at Carnegie: groundwork

The Friends are a key member of the hub Project Group. The PG is working on several fronts to establish a viable community-based hub that retains the library at its core, but also generates vital revenue to cover upkeep of the building. The PG keeps in close co-operation with Lambeth's community hubs team, and we have an experienced officer allocated to us. Contacts have been made with local tenants and residents groups, housing associations and local interest groups. Current issues include the timing of space being freed up in the building, and community access to the building when the library is closed. Ongoing issues include assessment of our position under the conservation rules (the library is listed Grade II) and planning for optimal use of the total space. The PG is seeking advice on both the latter issues, and fortunately also has local contacts, including its honorary secretary, with relevant expertise. Public consultation will follow. Meanwhile all views from the community are most welcome – please contact the PG secretary:

Fred Taggart  
Hon Secretary  
Carnegie Project Group  
86 Fawnbrake Avenue  
Herne Hill  
London SE24 0BZ  
email: [ftaggart70@btinternet.com](mailto:ftaggart70@btinternet.com)

*Frances Lamb*

## ANNIVERSARIES 2013



There are many commemorations to note this year. Literary birthdays include Boccaccio (1313), John Knox (1513), La Rochfoucauld (1613), Diderot and Sterne (1713), Kierkegaard (1813), Constantine Cavafy and Mary Sinclair (1863), Camus and Sir Angus Wilson (1913). Sir Thomas Bodley, creator of the Bodleian Library, died in 1613. Other deaths to note: Jacob Grimm and William Thackeray (1863), Baron Corvo (1913); 1963 saw the passing of Jean Cocteau, W E B Du Bois, Robert Frost, Aldous Huxley, C S Lewis, Louis MacNeice, Clifford Odets, Sylvia Plath and William Carlos Williams.

Birthdays of notable people in other fields include composers Wagner and Verdi (1813), Bizet (1863) and Benjamin Britten (1913). Black American Olympian athlete Jesse Owens was born 1913 as was the great British actress Vivien Leigh. We also commemorate the assassination in 1963 of John F Kennedy.

Seek books and/or recordings and films by and about these people; remember them and be inspired by their lives.

*Jeffrey Doorn*

## RECENT EVENTS

### **Winter Fair: Mrs Jarley's Jubilympic Waxworks**

*A Triple Celebration – and a new word for the O.E.D.*

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December saw the crowning event of the Friends' social calendar for 2012 – the Winter Fair. The organising committee thought long and hard before coming up with the theme of a triple celebration to commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Charles Dickens' birth, our Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London Olympics (London becoming the first city to celebrate three Olympics in the modern era). There was so much interest from would-be stallholders that it seemed possible tables would have to be shared; fortunately that was avoided. The Fair was opened by the head of Lambeth Libraries, Olivia Spencer, and was very well attended despite there being at least three similar events nearby on the same day. While funds raised were down on 2011, our coffers benefited to the tune of some £780, very reasonable in today's austerity.

As usual, the Fair attracted favourable comment, the costume parades and accompanying readings going down especially well. The multiple theme of the Fair was superbly reflected in the poster, which we asked to be in the form of a playbill and that is exactly what we got; for which many thanks to our regular designer Robert McKenzie. The writer also pays tribute to everyone who helped make the event go so well. Particular thanks are due to my two fellows on the organising sub-committee, Ceres Dandridge who masterminded the characters and costumes, and Jackie Plumridge who managed the large-scale refreshments. Also to all those who baked for the Friends' stall and those who ran the raffle and tombola. Last but not least, thanks to library services manager Caroline Mackie and manager Oneil Williams and their staff, who are always helpful and have made so many improvements in the library during the past year since they arrived.

Finally, a word about the O.E.D. Those who read *The Times* might have noticed a small paragraph in January which indicated that 'Jubilympics' was one of twelve words accepted into The Oxford English Dictionary for 2013. Once again the Friends of Carnegie Library are at the forefront of developments! On that hopeful note I would like to close this article by wishing you all a happy and prosperous 2013.

*Bob Goodrick - Events sub-committee*

### **Bessemer Birthday**



Engineer and prolific inventor Sir Henry Bessemer, whose estate stretched from Denmark Hill to the North Dulwich railway line, was born 19 January 1813. Exactly 200 years later visitors gathered in Carnegie Library to celebrate his bicentenary with a foyer display and a tea party with a delicious cake specially baked by Pam Mico. This was part of a Herne Hill Society initiative, funded by Southwark Council, which featured a full day of activities at **Bessemer Grange Primary School** two days previously (the pictured drawing is by Milly in year 3). As I pointed out in my welcome address, the special relevance to our library is that Andrew Carnegie had visited Bessemer plants in the UK and adopted the steel-making process for his own factories in the US. When Lambeth asked Carnegie for money to build a library in Herne Hill, the fact that Bessemer had lived nearby helped persuade him.

*Jeffrey Doorn*

## CARNEGIE LIBRARY FORTHCOMING EVENTS, etc

(see also back page, for regular events, and for opening hours)



### FEBRUARY



**National Libraries Day** *Tell us why you love libraries*

Story and rhyme time at 2pm

Open session for Silver Surfers at 11am

Tea, coffee and biscuits 11am to 3pm

**Saturday 9th February** <http://www.nationallibrariesday.org.uk/>

**LGBT history month** (every February) is an opportunity for all of us to learn more about the histories of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in Britain. Lambeth libraries are proud to be supporting the month. Drop in to the library to see the range of books and information we have.

### MARCH

**Friends of Carnegie Library AGM, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March.** See front page notice.

#### EXHIBITION IN THE GALLERY



FEBRUARY and MARCH

**Linda Skoglund** - An exhibition of limited edition screen prints and handmade textile design. From Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February until the end of March. See [www.lindaskoglund.co.uk](http://www.lindaskoglund.co.uk)

*Caroline Mackie*

#### LOST STORIES OF RUSKIN PARK – booklet and video



Ruskin Park is on English Heritage's 'Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest' (Grade II, registered 1987), in recognition of features of notable heritage value contributing to its character and identity. Ruskin Park was officially opened to the public on 2 February 1907, but was enlarged in 1910 by adding a further 12 acres of land to the south (the Herne Hill side of the park). A Heritage Lottery Fund grant funded this 'Lost Stories' community project promoting the Park. The project ran for one year from November 2011. It aimed to enrich the local community's knowledge and use of the park and to encourage underrepresented local groups into the park. Volunteers researched the cultural and natural history of the park, its origins and its links with the nineteenth century art critic and social reformer John Ruskin. They conducted oral history interviews with local residents. On completion, the project team have produced a delightful illustrated booklet (free copies are available in the library) and also a short film of some of the interviews.

Both the booklet and the film can be downloaded from the project's website:

<http://ruskinparkproject.wordpress.com/projects/>

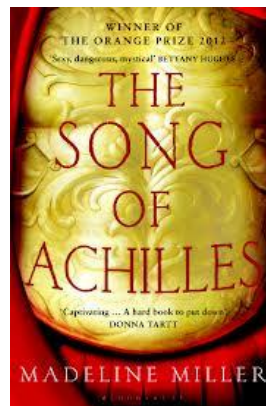
*Frances Lamb*

## CARNEGIE LIBRARY BOOK GROUP

**First Monday of each Month**

**Monday 4th March 2013 at 7pm.**

Meetings are from 7 to 8.30pm. The book for March is *The Song of Achilles* by Madeline Miller. You can collect a copy from the desk. For more information about the Book Club please speak to Caroline.



*Caroline Mackie*

## CARNEGIE CRAFT CIRCLE

**NEW**



At an initial meeting on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> January, attended by a dozen or so knitters and stitchers, it was decided with the agreement of Caroline Mackie, library services manager, that the group will meet informally every Saturday from 12 noon to 2pm in the Gallery. There is no requirement to attend every week, and no charge except for a tea & coffee kitty. To begin with, no materials will be kept at the library; everything is taken away after the session. Men, women and older children are welcome, and beginners will be helped by those more expert. (Note: occasionally the group might be moved elsewhere in the library – you can check at the desk).

If you are interested, just turn up. Or if you would like information, contact me, Sharon, at [carnegiecraftercircle@gmail.com](mailto:carnegiecraftercircle@gmail.com) or drop me a note (marked Craft Circle) into the Friends' Red Tray.

*Sharon Hudswell*

## RUSKIN READERS NEED VOLUNTEERS



Ruskin Readers is a voluntary organisation which provides one-to one literacy tuition for adults with reading and writing difficulties, enabling them to take charge of their own lives.

Two clubs operate at Carnegie Library: Mondays from 7 to 9pm and Wednesdays from 2.30 to 4.30pm. **Volunteers are now required for both evenings.** They receive support and training from the club supervisor and professional speakers in the field of adult literacy. The volunteer works with an individual student, helping to develop his or her learning skills and confidence.

To find out more about volunteering (or to register for support) please email Caroline at [ruskinreaders@gmail.com](mailto:ruskinreaders@gmail.com) or telephone her on 020 7274 2443. Thank you.

*Caroline Knapp*

LOCAL EVENTS – HERNE HILL SOCIETY  
[www.hernehillsociety.org.uk/index.php/society\\_meeting](http://www.hernehillsociety.org.uk/index.php/society_meeting)  
United Church Hall, Red Post Hill, 7.30 for 7.45 sharp

Wednesday 13th February  
'Local Scenes in Old Postcards' Illustrated talk by Ian McInnes, who will take an extended walk along Half Moon Lane, East Dulwich Grove, Lordship Lane and Dulwich.

Wednesday 13th March  
AGM, followed by 'Lambeth architecture 1914-1939'- a talk by local conservation expert Edmund Bird, adviser to the Mayor of London's Design for London and Transport for London.

#### Regular events at Carnegie Library:

First Saturday of the month, 2.30 – 3.30pm:  
Councillor Carol Boucher's surgery.  
Tel 07814 567914 email [cboucher@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:cboucher@lambeth.gov.uk)

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.  
**NB a black cake plate was not claimed after the Winter Fair.**  
**Contact Jackie, either on the Stall or via the Friends post tray.**

First Monday of the month, 7 - 8.30pm:  
Book Group at Carnegie Library.  
Collect the current book from the desk.

First and third Wednesday of the month, 10am - 12noon:  
Silver Surfers. Introduction to the internet.

Every Monday and Wednesday  
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](mailto: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; **NEW**  
Carnegie Craft Circle – in the Gallery  
Beginners welcome – just turn up. Knitting, sewing, tea, coffee and chat. See separate article above.

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](mailto: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](mailto:carnegielibrary@lambeth.gov.uk)

#### 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 Wi-Fi, using your library card and pin number. So bring your laptop...

#### 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.

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*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 6 Sunray Avenue, SE24 9PY. Or email it to [foclnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:foclchair@gmail.com) or telephone 020 7274 3176.*

*Membership queries: : [foclmembers@gmail.com](mailto:foclmembers@gmail.com)*

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