




*Registered Charity No: 1168619
Patron: Lord Fellowes of West Stafford DL*

The Belgravia Society Magazine

Number 67 | December 2020

The only independent voice for Belgravia



To celebrate the past,
improve the present,
and engage the future

Reflecting on an
extraordinary year
in Parliament

Page 6

Young Mozart
– the original
Wunderkind

Page 9

Chelsea Barracks
planning updates

Page 20



Registered Charity No: 1168619

*Patron: Lord Fellowes
of West Stafford DL*



Welcome to The Belgravia Society Magazine covering all aspects of village life in Belgravia and beyond

Editor in Chief – Mary Regnier-Leigh
Chairman – George Waite

Graphic design by Fredd (www.fredd.co.uk)

Cover photo – Mary Regnier-Leigh

This magazine has been independently produced by the Committee of The Belgravia Society on a voluntary basis with regular contributions from local residents and other authors in and around Belgravia.

Copyright 2020 Belgravia Society. All rights reserved.

The Belgravia Society, 63 Belgravia Court, 33 Ebury Street, London SW1W 0NY, United Kingdom

www.thebelgraviasociety.com



Inside this issue

Chairman's Message	4	Then and Now	14
Reflecting on an extraordinary year in Parliament	6	The Party Wall etc Act 1996 – Part 2	16
Young Mozart – the original Wunderkind	9	Little Houses – temporary art in Victoria	17
A musical postscript from Jeremy Lucas	10	A note and seasonal wishes from Cllr Hitchcock and her colleagues	18
St Barnabas School	11	E-scooters	19
Have your say on Westminster temporary traffic measures	11	Chelsea Barracks	20
Excerpt from Cllr Rachael Robathan's New Year Message	12	Councillors' Surgeries and Contact Details	22
		Membership Application	23

Chairman's Message



George Waite
Chairman of
The Belgravia Society
and ESRA

To celebrate the
past, improve
the present, and
engage the future

We often refer to the 'Belgravia community' and I have long deliberated whether a community spirit truly exists in Belgravia.

- In January we held our AGM at St Peter's Church. Emily Anderson from Grosvenor spoke about Grosvenor's policies on the environment. Leader of Westminster City Council (WCC), Cllr Rachael Robathan, thanked The Society "for all the work it does on behalf the community". Nickie Aiken, now our MP, talked about homelessness and addiction that leads to it.
- In March we received an invitation to join our Member of Parliament, Nickie Aiken, in regular remote meetings. The objective of the remote and ongoing meetings is to receive the latest advice and support so that we can ensure our community remains updated.
- In April, amid the COVID-19 pandemic, we reported on local people and groups, asking WCC how they could help in their communities. In response, WCC set up Westminster Connects to coordinate volunteers with those who need help. Since then over 3,000 people have volunteered, supporting over 6,000 residents across Westminster with over 50,000 acts of kindness.
- In May I proudly announced the 60th edition of The Belgravia Society Magazine, celebrating five years of dedication and hard work by Mary Regnier-Leigh and her editorial team. Our Member of Parliament, Nickie Aiken, paid tribute to the magazine.
- In July we praised WCC and thanked them for taking a proactive role in ensuring the difficulties of coping with COVID-19 were dealt with efficiently and with imagination. Please take the time to visit the WCC website – communications@westminster.gov.uk.
- In August we reported on Grosvenor introducing their own 'Eat Out to Help Out' scheme and quoted Paul O'Grady, Grosvenor's Director of Belgravia: "We've been overwhelmed by the response from Belgravia's restaurants and cafés as well as from residents throughout lockdown. We've been working to support local businesses and the community, and we'll continue to look for opportunities to aid the area's recovery."
- In October we reported on St Barnabas School Appeal to raise funds for a new playground/outdoor classroom. We supported that on our pages and are pleased to report in this edition the success of the Appeal (see page 11).



- In this month's edition, we report on Cllr Rachael Robathan's vision "that Westminster is a place where people should have a chance of living in an affordable home, going to a good school, having access to open spaces with clean air, and growing old with support at hand".

Despite the pandemic, we have continued to hold our meetings (by Zoom), working with our community to advise on planning and other matters, responded to important consultations including the WCC City Plan, attended developers' liaison groups, liaised with Grosvenor and worked to fulfil our raison d'être of "celebrating the past, improving the present and engaging the future".

During these challenging times, we all need help. I am full of admiration and thankful to WCC, as well as the doctors, nurses, and support staff at the NHS, and frontline workers who continue the struggle to protect us. I can truly say that, not only does a community spirit exist in Belgravia, it is a powerful and strong one and something to be proud of. ■



Registered Charity No. 1168619

Building a strong community

**To celebrate the past,
improve the present,
and engage the future**

The more members we have, the louder our collective voice will be.

JOIN US TODAY!

Benefits include:

- Monthly magazine
- Opportunity to join us at any of our monthly meetings
- Have your say on local matters
- Advice where possible on planning issues
- Invitation to our AGM and opportunity to vote

**[www.thebelgrviasociety.com/
online-membership-form](http://www.thebelgrviasociety.com/online-membership-form)**

Please fill in the online form by clicking on the link above link.

Alternatively, print the application form on page 23 and post your completed form to

63 Belgravia Court
33 Ebury Street
London SW1W 0NY

Reflecting on an extraordinary year in Parliament

by **Nickie Aiken MP**



It is a huge honour to be the MP for the Cities of London and Westminster, but it has not entirely been the first year in Parliament I was expecting.

As 2020 ends, I have been reflecting on the past twelve months. For the first three months I was finding my feet, putting together a team. However, within three weeks of the team coming together, COVID-19 hit. Every workplace has been challenged by COVID-19, but I am proud of my team's continuing enthusiasm and hard work. Together, we have all come through a roller-coaster rest of the year, responding to over 11,000 emails!

Central London businesses have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19 due to reliance on income from non-residents pre-pandemic. Given the importance of the eco-system that combines the hospitality, retail and culture and leisure sectors in the Two Cities, I lobbied hard for financial support for all and was delighted with the government's response with the furlough system, the business rates holiday, a cut in VAT, the grants and loans, and the 'Eat Out To Help Out' programme.

Sadly, not all self-employed people have been supported; I am acutely aware of those particularly working in the creative and arts industries. I continue to lobby for financial support for those left behind. I am also proud to have helped secure the £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund for arts and culture.

There has been time for work on non-COVID related areas. I am proudest of securing an amendment in the Domestic Abuse Bill, ensuring children are included in the definition of victims, meaning they will receive help and support even if not abused directly. I also laid down my first Private Member's Bill – calling for licensing of pedicabs. I hope that it will move onto its committee stage early next year.

In February, I also established a "New-Born Baby Screening" campaign to increase the number of diseases babies are tested for in their first week. The campaign secured positive feedback from the Health Secretary. I plan to return to this issue next year.

As we look towards 2021, with the first of several effective vaccines approved and beginning to be administered as well as the roll-out of rapid tests, there is hope of progress towards defeating COVID-19. However, the virus has not yet been defeated. The need to place the whole of Greater London under Tier 4 restrictions because of a new emerging strain of the virus is incredibly concerning.

We had all hoped to be able to enjoy a degree of normality this Christmas which was simply not possible. It is imperative that we all continue to follow the rules to protect the NHS and save lives.

Whatever 2021 brings, I hope that it is more straightforward than 2020! In the meantime, I wish you a peaceful and safe festive season with my best wishes for 2021.

Email: nickie.aiken.mp@parliament.uk

Tel: 020 7219 4553

Follow on    [@twocitiesnickie](https://twitter.com/twocitiesnickie)

Postscript

As 2020 closes, I'm so pleased and, frankly, relieved that the UK and EU have agreed a Free Trade Deal. As the MP for a constituency where 72% voted Remain, I know how difficult the last four and half years have been for many who were upset about the referendum result.

I hope that we can now move on from what has been such a torrid period in our nation's history and work together as one nation to rebuild our economy following the pandemic and ensure the UK is an outward looking country, playing its part on the global stage. ■





Young Mozart – the original Wunderkind

by Monica Lucas

The necessity for musical performers to undertake arduous live tours in order to earn a living was no different 250 years ago than it is today. And so it was that the Mozart family made a three year grand tour around the cultural capitals of 18th century Europe – Mannheim, Paris, London, Amsterdam – to showcase their two keyboard performing prodigies: 11 year old Anna Maria (known as Nannerl) and her little 8 year old brother, Wolfgang.

A year of this tour – April 1764 to July 1765 – was spent in London, where the duo performed to great acclaim in a multitude of venues, including several appearances in front of music lovers, King George III and Queen Charlotte.

Initially, they took rooms in the centre of town, in Soho and near Whitehall. But during the summer of 1764 the father, Leopold, developed a fever, with throat inflammation and other worrying symptoms (sound familiar?) and became gravely ill. The family felt the need to move to healthier lodgings, with peace and quiet and fresh country air. Thus, they arrived at 180 Ebury Street (known as Fields Road at that time) which was one in a small terrace of houses standing alone amidst market gardens and hayfields. Hopefully, they found it peaceful as the area somewhat to the north (around what is now Eaton Square, Eaton Place and Belgrave Square) was still wild and marshy, with several ponds that attracted wild duck hunters, and bushy groves which gave cover to duellists, cock fighters and footpads.

With concerts on hold, and under a strict instruction from his mother not to touch a keyboard and to KEEP QUIET so as to let his father rest, little Wolfy was bored. And what does a bored 8-year-old boy do? Why, write a symphony, of course! So, from his head, he writes down his first symphony, fully orchestrated, complete with all instruments including trumpets and tympani. Sister Nannerl helped with the copying out of the score. “Remind me”, he says to her, “that I must be sure to give the French horn a decent amount to do.”

And what a symphony it is. Only 11 minutes long (you can hear it [here](#)) but complete in all respects with three movements: molto allegro, andante, presto. Not as sophisticated as his later works, granted, but astonishing for an 8 year old who, to that point, had mainly been a keyboard performer.

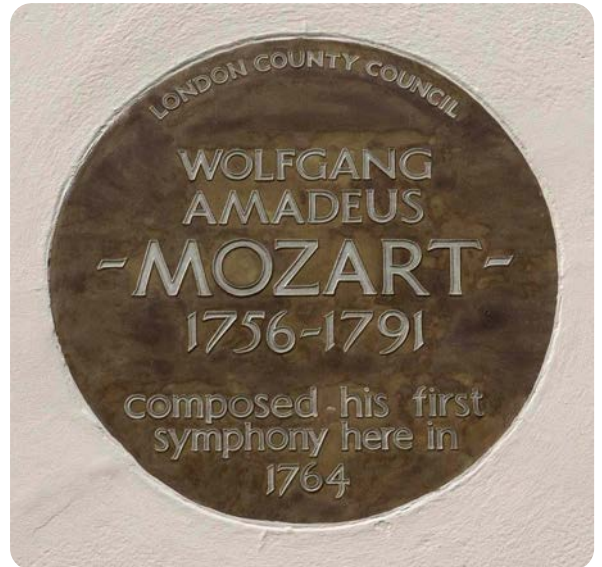
After several weeks, Leopold recovered and the family moved back to Soho. But Wolfgang had now got the composing bug and the rest is history. Mozart’s birthday was on 27th January 1756. This January it will be 265 years – so long ago and still his music is amongst the best known and loved in the world.

Next time you go down Ebury Street, and pass No. 180, or go to the farmers’ market in Orange Square and see his statue, pause to pay homage to the boy genius and think back to what Belgravia was before it was Belgravia. ■

A musical postscript from Jeremy Lucas



Philip Jackson gives a final brush-up to his statue of the young Mozart at his studio in Midhurst, West Sussex. The bronze is due to be unveiled by Princess Margaret on September 21 in Primko Green, southwest London, a few yards from 180 Ebury Street, where Mozart composed his first symphony. Mr Jackson was chosen from 12 sculptors for the £22,000 commission, paid for by public appeal

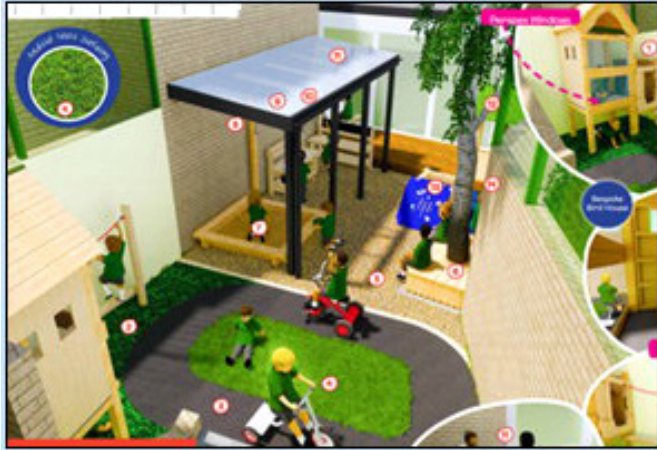


I would urge any reader of this article who has not listened to Wolfgang's first symphony, written at the age of 8, to take the required 11 minutes to do so: you will be amazed. To me, it seems like a proper Mozart symphony, but in miniature. Many of the features of his later style are already there and from bar 7 of the second slow movement, the first horn plays the same notes (do, re, fah, mi, in sol fa) he used again 24 years later to open the final movement of his last symphony (No. 41 *Jupiter*), which sort of proves the point.

How could an 8-year-old child possibly have done this? I think the answer is partly that he had perfect pitch and so could compose whole works in his head without writing them down (when he was five or so, he is said to have remarked, "Uncle Georg blows his nose on G"!), and partly

that he had an extraordinarily retentive musical memory (it is well known that he wrote down Allegri's *Miserere* from memory, having heard it once or possibly twice, much to the fury of the Pope, as the piece was supposed to be secret and not heard outside the Vatican) and had heard J C Bach's music at the time he wrote the first symphony. But also, as Alfred (brother of Albert) Einstein points out in his seminal book on Mozart, although Mozart died at the distressingly early age of 35, he worked for 30 of those years! In other words, at the age of 8 he had already been doing music in an organised way for three years and had already made some compositions. Or maybe one shouldn't bother to try and explain it but just accept that this man was simply one of the most naturally and brilliantly musically gifted people who has ever lived. ■

St Barnabas School



In our October magazine our Chairman, George Waite, wrote about the new playground area which the school was crowdfunding. He asked us all to be as generous as possible and a number of our members made contributions. I am delighted to tell you that the school achieved far more than they expected. It means all the children in the nursery and the KS1 will be able to spend at least a quarter of every day playing and learning outside in all weathers, thanks to the generosity of those who answered the appeal. Owing to that generosity, they were also able to buy capes and wellingtons.

The majority of children at the school live in flats with no outdoor space, so this new facility will be particularly beneficial. It will provide for a new interactive play area and an outdoor classroom.

The local councillors, including Nickie Aiken MP, have supported the appeal. Cllr Jacqui Wilkinson says, "I was delighted to help

Kate with the fundraising. There has been support from across Pimlico and Belgravia, including from Grosvenor, contractors at the Ebury Bridge Regeneration site and the Regeneration team. Even in these difficult times, it is great to see our community coming together to help local children."

We have been asked by Kate McCarthy, Chair of Governors at the school, on behalf of the children, Governors and staff, to thank everyone who generously pledged towards this crowdfunding project. ■

Have your say on Westminster temporary traffic measures

Westminster City Council is asking for feedback on its temporary traffic measures. We understand that there has been a good response.

Do go to westminsterstreets.org.uk/westminster-temporary-traffic-measures/ and have your say.

There is an interactive map for you to look at and you can respond to WCC from the site. This an important consultation.

HM Government

CORONAVIRUS TIER 4

STAY HOME

THERE IS A NEW STRAIN OF COVID-19 WHICH SPREADS EVEN FASTER

- ▶ Around 1 in 3 people have no symptoms, so will be spreading it without realising
- ▶ You must not leave home except for specific purposes: food, medical reasons or work
- ▶ Do not travel unless necessary
- ▶ Work from home if you can
- ▶ ONLY up to two people can meet in public outdoor spaces

For further details, go to gov.uk/coronavirus

STAY ALERT > CONTROL THE VIRUS > SAVE LIVES



WORKING WITH YOU TO BUILD A CITY FOR ALL



Excerpt from **Cllr Rachael Robathan's New Year Message**

**Leader of
Westminster City Council**

We enter 2021 with London in Tier Four status; uncharted and uncertain waters. This message is intended to provide a measure of assurance – that the Council is working hard to look after residents and fighting to ensure businesses get the support they need to survive.


Westminster is a huge employer – around 80,000 jobs. As the Council with the biggest hospitality sector in the country, we were the first to launch dozens of temporary outdoor dining spaces. The West End is responsible for one in ten jobs across London. That is why I am calling on the Chancellor for more help.

When I became leader nearly a year ago, I promised residents that their priorities would be at the heart of the Council's "City for All" programme. The pandemic has changed our world, but I have never lost sight of what I pledged – that Westminster is a place where people should have a chance of living in an affordable home, going to a good school, having access to open spaces with clean air, and growing old with support at hand.

Our construction sites will keep on meeting the target of delivering 1,850 affordable homes by 2023. Despite the pandemic, we were able to open our Beachcroft Care Home, a place where vulnerable people receive the best possible care. For young people, "Our City Lions" programme has continued to offer opportunity and inspiration, encouraging teenagers to lift their horizons. Overall, our schools did well in this year's GCSE. There was also a special accolade for the Council's special educational needs/disabilities (SEND) team which received a glowing report from Ofsted.

2021 will be a year in which we take further action in support of our commitment to the environment and tackling climate change. The Council is also campaigning to improve energy efficiency and enhance green space, and is about to launch an innovative scheme to consolidate the number of van and lorry deliveries.

Away from the "City for All" priorities, we will keep working with central Government and the NHS to roll out the vaccination programme and promote social distancing. In a year marked by hardship, I would like to inject a brighter note. Westminster residents from all walks of life came forward to volunteer to help each other as the pandemic took hold. Like you, I hope this is the year we turn a decisive corner in the coronavirus outbreak and embark on the road to recovery.



One early piece of good news for 2021 is the launch of our arts festival, “Inside Out”. I believe it will be a fantastic way of showcasing our cultural institutions.

This is a council committed to delivery, and you will see us make good on our pledges to provide a “City for All”.

With my very best wishes for the New Year.



Cllr Rachael Robathan
Westminster City Council

Editor's Note:

The above is a précis of the New Year Message from Cllr Rachael Robathan, Leader of Westminster City Council. Do read the full text by clicking on the following link: www.westminster.gov.uk/leaders-new-year-message-1



Then and Now

A few weeks ago, an auctioneer in Derby contacted us to see if we might be interested in something that related to Belgravia but has no intrinsic value. It turned out to be an Inventory and Valuation for Insurance of the contents of a flat in Eaton Square.

The inventory duly arrived and I have been truly amazed by the care and attention to the contents and book binding. It is dated 20th June 1961. See the photographs and consider the contrast between that and what we might expect today. It was produced 60 years ago and it is incredible to believe the amount of time, effort and expertise which would have gone into its physical production.

Just 60 years ago yet things were so very different then. There were no photocopiers, computers, email, internet or any of the electronic devices we use today. Many legal documents of the recent past were still handwritten. In the early days, as an articled clerk (which was then part of the training to become a solicitor), we received a handwritten conveyance transferring the

title of a property. It was the end of an era which had started when humans first began to write.

I also came across documents written on vellum dating back to the early 19th century and before. From the early 20th century some documents were typed, but not all – handwritten documents were the order of the day and the change was gradual.

Before the registration of land was universal, many old title deeds were written on vellum. It is very rare to see vellum documents today but, occasionally, where a property has not changed hands for several generations, such documents can still form part of a title to a property prior to registration. Of course, they make nice lampshades and wall decorations now!

In the late 1960s, secretaries had manual typewriters and then came the change from manual to electric typewriters. There were two sorts of typists: first, a shorthand typist and the second a copy typist. Believe it or not, in those days, if you wanted a copy of something, a copy typist simply copied it. If it was an important document then you needed two people to check it – one reading out from the original and the other checking the new copy to ensure it was accurate. Even the shorthand typist had to produce a copy of what was typed and that was done with a piece of carbon paper so that the carbon copy was retained for record purposes.

A shorthand typist took dictation in shorthand and then transcribed that into readable type-written form. It might be a letter, document, an inventory or something else. As I sit here writing this, there is not a pen in sight, just a microphone which takes down my dictation and, via my computer, immediately shows it in type on my screen. How different now from then. ■



Complaints to Westminster City Council

If you have a complaint for
Westminster City Council,
you can “Report it” at

www.westminster.gov.uk

Failing that, you should telephone
020 7641 6000 and ask to speak
to the appropriate department.

Also, do contact your Councillor;
they are always there to help
(see page 22 for contact details).

If you are not sure which Ward you are
in, go to the WCC website and click
on “Westminster’s Councillors”. Then
either type in the relevant information
or click on “Find the Ward you live in”.
Then put in your address for the result.



Invitation to the next Belgravia Society committee meeting

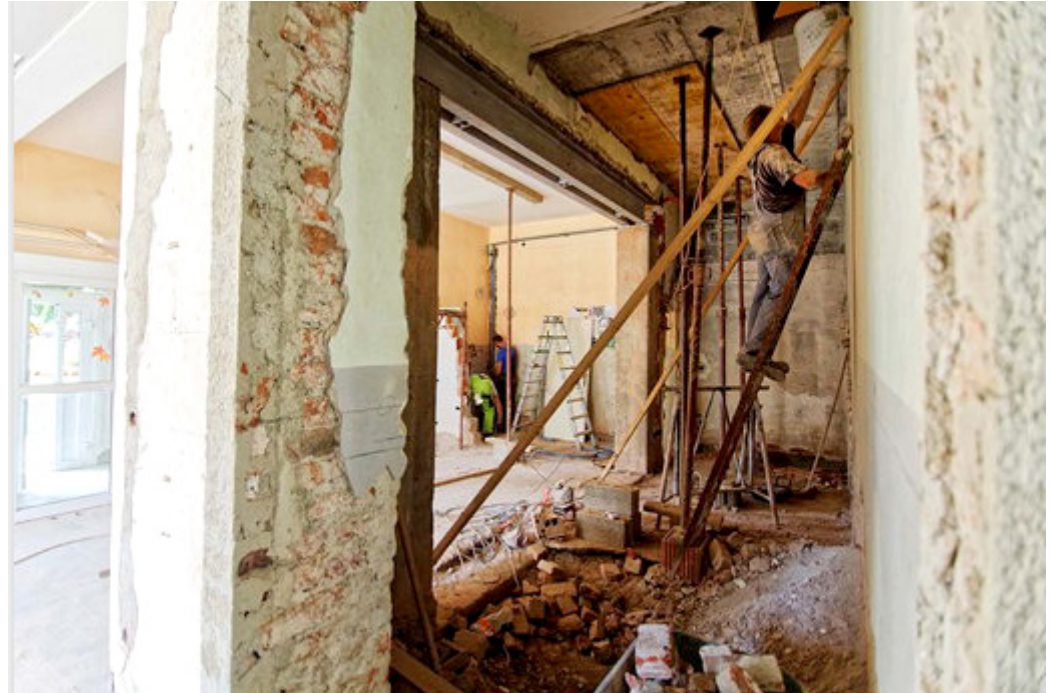
We would be delighted for you to join
our video meeting. Please let us know
by email if you wish to be linked to
the meeting:

info@thebelgraviasociety.com

We can only accept a limited number,
so first come, first served.

**Our next video meeting is
12th January 2020**

The Party Wall etc Act 1996



Part 2 By Helene Oratore

I write of my experience, as someone who has used the Act to extend my home, and as the recipient of an award served on me. Under the Party Wall etc Act 1996 the Building Owner (BO) must comply with various rights and obligations. Two such requirements are: “to exercise reasonable care when carrying out works and avoid unnecessary inconvenience to an Adjoining Owner (AO) during these works”, and “to compensate the AO for damage to property caused by the work of the BO and pay for all expenses relating to those works”.

One might conclude that these very robust clauses would fully protect the AO, however, think again! I know of a case where, during the ground works, the BO’s contractors used faulty equipment and sprayed concrete over more than 50% of the AO’s pure white Portland stone slabbed garden and a large number of her glazed windows. Initially, the BO’s team accepted liability. Within minutes they had arrived at her doorstep offering to wash away the concrete into the AO’s rear garden drain. The AO had seconds to make a decision.

She declined the suggestion as she was concerned that concrete would solidify in her drains, blocking them and causing her a greater problem which she would then be financially responsible for correcting. The BO accused the AO of preventing their mitigation of the damage.

An 18 month battle then ensued, even though the entire incident had been captured on two cameras, independent witnesses had seen the event and the BO’s team had initially accepted liability.

Due to the AO’s legal background, he had added into their party wall agreement such simple clauses as “the BO shall not be permitted to use the AO’s rainwater drains”, and “compensation to be paid within a reasonable time”, and “replacement like for like”. These were the clauses which finally assisted in concluding the matter, NOT the Party Wall Act. A six figure sum was paid by the BO to replace the damaged stone “like for like”. So an Act which purports to protect the AO created 18 months of misery and stress. ■



Little Houses – temporary art in Victoria

The only sunny day we had last week tempted me out for walk and I took my camera with me, as I generally do. Lower Grosvenor Gardens had a surprise with three model houses of varying sizes. I asked one of our local councillors, Elizabeth Hitchcock, if she was able to tell me anything about them as I could not see any information. Well informed as usual, Councillor Hitchcock referred me to the necessary information.

The art is by Richard Woods, a London based artist, and seems to be an evolution of a design he has been working on for a few years. He has become known for his large scale models of houses in bright, cartoon-like designs, and they certainly do stand out.

As he says: “Houses come in all different sizes. This is a drawing of a small one, a medium one, and a large one, and there’s not much else to say about it, frankly – three bold coloured houses surrounded by road traffic.”

So now you know. It does lighten up the grim, grey days we have been having and the grim fight against the pandemic.

The houses are due to be removed in June. ■

Planning Advice

If you get a notice of a planning application near you and you want advice, telephone our dedicated helpline:

07578 969509

A note and seasonal wishes from Councillor Hitchcock and her colleagues

The work of Westminster City Council did not stop – in fact, there was much praise for how quickly and how well it responded to unforeseen and fast-moving events.

Our officers were able to pivot and were deployed to different departments to take on new responsibilities thrown up by COVID-19 and the lockdowns.

We very much hope that the current restrictions will be lifted as soon as the government deems it suitable and will be able to take on our responsibilities in person and not virtually. Until then, we are always available to assist with any issues you may have, so please do get in touch. ■



Editor's note

Contact details for all our local Councillors can be found on page 22.

We want to wish all the readers of the Belgravia Society Magazine a very happy new year.

We are very sorry that last year was such a difficult one and that we were unable to see many of you in person and only some of you via Zoom for the occasional meeting. We are very much hoping that 2021 will eventually get back to something more normal.

But, despite the pandemic and all the restrictions that were imposed, we were able to assist residents with all sorts of queries and issues – whether it be something related to a planning application, waste collection, pavements and highways, or a variety of other things.

Wanted!

**Writers
Historians
Story tellers**

Do you enjoy writing?
We would be delighted to receive articles and short stories about Belgravia/our neighbours/ London and beyond – all voluntary, of course.

Discuss your ideas with us:
info@belgraviasociety.com



E-scooters

Most of us have seen E-scooters on our roads and, worse, on our pavements. There is a considerable number of people using them now and they are still not legal on our roads. The government is looking into making suitable arrangements for them, however, we understand from BCU, Chief Superintendent Helen Harper, that they are notoriously dangerous.

The Police have seized E-scooters, which can operate up to 40mph, and there are some apparently which can reach speeds of 70mph. No tests are required or helmets or even lights. Anyone riding one of these vehicles puts themselves as well as others at risk.

Chief Superintendent Harper tells us that anyone on an E-Scooter can be stopped by the Police. Offences can include, but not exclusively, operating without insurance, contravening cycle lanes, or riding on pavements. The consequences can be

a fine of up to £300 plus six points on a driving licence.

If anyone is considering buying an E-scooter at this time, it is important to remember that all legal issues remain to be settled. There is to be legislation and there is a trial of the use of E-scooters taking place. There is no doubt that we should be looking for greener transport, but we should not do so at the risk of safety. We look forward to a day when the right balance can be found. We feel sure that this mode of transport will eventually be permitted, subject to the appropriate rules, insurance, personal protective gear, the requirement for lights and a sound indication – particularly in areas where there are pedestrians.

If you have legally hired an E-scooter which we understand may be legal at the moment, do let us know what you think from your experience. ■

Chelsea Barracks



You may remember that last year a temporary restaurant was opened on the site. It was very successful and was due to close at the end of 2019. For obvious reasons, there has been no progress this year. However, we understand that there are negotiations with an operator underway, which should conclude shortly. If all goes well, the restaurant should open in the summer of 2021.

Long time residents in Belgravia will remember the first planning application for the Chelsea Barracks site. As residents, we thought that the plans were wholly inappropriate for the area and were appalled that it was intended to demolish the Chapel on the site.

After much local protest, the scheme for the site was dropped. That local protest had been supported by the Prince of Wales. We can be most grateful to him although, sadly, he was much criticised despite his intervention representing vox populi.

As part of the new scheme, the Chapel was preserved as it was listed rather late, but they do say, “better late than never”. As residents we understood that the future use of the Chapel would include much, if not all, public use and there have been no local consultations. This does not seem to have found its way through to its future now.

The Chapel is subject to a trust whose members are all local. We do not know



how the members were chosen as there has been no local consultation. We were told the trustees would be meeting in early January and matters, such as public use, could be addressed then.

We and other attendees at the community construction meeting expressed disappointment at the lack of neighbourhood consultation. We asked how many days the Chapel would be available for public use. We had hoped that it would be subsidised by the developers so the public use would be paramount. The finance of the Chapel is somewhat opaque and we suspect there will be commercial imperative to minimise public use. We hope we are proved wrong.

In the meantime, the development continues. Phases 1, 2 and 3A are now complete and residents are moving in. Multiplex Phase 4 is continuing. The superstructures are complete with façade work continuing. Completion of the phase is expected by September 2021. ■





Councillors' Surgeries and Contact Details

Knightsbridge & Belgravia Ward

Cllr Rachel Robathan (Con)	leader@westminster.gov.uk
Cllr Tony Devenish (Con)	tony.devenish@london.gov.uk
Cllr Elizabeth Hitchcock (Con)	ehitchcock@westminster.gov.uk
Tel no for all	020 7641 3411

Surgeries by telephone only for the time being. Please telephone 020 7641 3411.

Warwick Ward

Cllr Christabel Flight (Con)	cflight@westminster.gov.uk
Cllr Nickie Aiken (Con)	nickie.aiken.mp@parliament.uk
Cllr Jacqui Wilkinson (Con)	jwilkinson@westminster.gov.uk
Tel no for Cllr Aiken	020 7641 3255
Tel no for Cllrs Flight and Wilkinson	020 7641 3411

Surgeries by telephone only until further notice. For the time being, please use telephone number 020 7641 5377.

Churchill Ward

Cllr Murad Gassanly (Con)	mgassanly@westminster.gov.uk
Tel no	020 7641 5377

If you require help and/or support with a problem, email Councillor Gassanly or call at the above telephone number. Councillor Gassanly's monthly drop-in advice surgeries (City of Westminster Housing South Area Advice Centre, 137 Lupus Street, London SW1V 3HE) are currently on hold. Call or email for information.

Cllr Andrea Mann (Lab)	amann@westminster.gov.uk
Cllr Shamim Talukder (Lab)	stalukder@westminster.gov.uk
Tel no	020 7641 4299

Surgeries, usually held on the second Thursday of the month, 7-8pm, are currently on hold. Please call or email for updates.

Postal address for all Councillors:	Westminster City Hall 64 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6QP
-------------------------------------	--



Registered Charity No: 1168619
An amenity society recognised by the City of Westminster

Membership Application

Membership is open to residents and non-residents and is free

Name email

Second name (if any) email

Address.....

.....

Telephone: Home..... Work

Mobile..... Date

By signing this Application I CONSENT and AGREE to The Belgravia Society sending emails to me until I unsubscribe or resign from the Society.

Signature(s):

Please let us know if you have any special interests, concerns or queries:

PLEASE RETURN THIS APPLICATION FORM TO THE PERSON WHO GAVE IT TO YOU OR EMAIL TO:
info@thebelgraviasociety.com
OR POST TO: 63 BELGRAVIA COURT 33 EBURY STREET LONDON SW1W 0NY

Gift Aid declaration – for past, present and future

Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts made:

- Today In the past 4 years In the future



giftaid it

Please tick all boxes you wish to apply.

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 28p of tax on every £1 that I gave up to 5 April 2020 and will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2020.

SIGNATURE(s)

PRINT NAME Date

Please notify the charity or CASC if you:

- Want to cancel this declaration Change your name or home address No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

PLEASE RETURN THIS APPLICATION FORM TO THE SHOP WHERE YOU PICKED IT UP OR EMAIL TO: info@thebelgraviasociety.com
OR POST TO: 63 BELGRAVIA COURT 33 EBURY STREET LONDON SW1W 0NY



The Belgravia Society Magazine

The only independent voice for Belgravia

Number 67
December 2020



Registered Charity No: 1168619
www.thebelgraviasociety.com