ISSUE 72 | MAY 2021

THE BELGRAVIA SOCIETY MAGAZINE

THE ONLY INDEPENDENT VOICE FOR BELGRAVIA

HEROES OR OFFENDERS?

ANDREW NEWTON CONSIDERS OUR MONUMENTS' HISTORICAL LEGACIES

'NO MOW' MAY

SARA OLIVER EXAMINES THE BENEFITS OF LETTING THE GRASS GROW

BIG BEN

AN UPDATE ON THE REPAIRS AND RENOVATION OF THE ICONIC ELIZABETH TOWER AND ITS CLOCK

THE BELGRAVIA SOCIETY

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

PHOTOGRAPHY
Mary Regnier-Leigh

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Fredd
www.fredd.co.uk

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.

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

www.thebelgraviasociety.com

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

George Waite
Chairman of
The Belgravia Society
and ESRA

I am really pleased to read that life in Beautiful Belgravia is returning to normal and I really hope that the worst is behind us and our local businesses can start to rebuild and flourish.

I also hope that the huge efforts and sacrifices that have been made to care for and protect our community will continue and become part of the new norm, because there is still much to do and returning to normal for some of our community is not so beautiful.

Many of our main stakeholders, WCC and Grosvenor in particular, have really met the challenges of these ongoing changes to our World and are in the process of creating a better, more balanced and focused normal, and the key to this success has been, in my humble opinion, their ability to listen and change.

As part of the Belgravia Society, I have long enjoyed access to our MP, Nickie Aiken (please take time to read her article in this Magazine) and the leader of WCC Cllr Rachael Robathan, and I recently had the pleasure of meeting Grosvenor's CEO, James Raynor, all of whom impressed me with their passion and commitment to guard our community whilst 'building for the future'.

Some of us are a little anxious about 'building for the future' because we believe that what we have is so precious, unique and beautiful. Our Editor, Mary Regnier-Leigh, keeps reminding me that our motto is 'to celebrate the past, improve the present and engage the future', and whilst I agree, I would also ask our fellow stakeholders to keep a close watch on the plans to build for the future and please continue to listen to the Beautiful Community of Belgravia.

A big thank you to Cllr Elizabeth Hitchcock for listening to the residents of Gerrard Road; her intervention to fix the damaged pavements will make a big difference.

Also, thank you to Grosvenor's Director for Belgravia, Paul O'Grady, and his team for keeping us briefed; his enthusiasm is infectious.

The pandemic which has changed our lives so much for the last 15 months has had another effect and that is to bring us more together as a community. I look forward to building on that in the months and years to come. ▲

CAMPAIGNING TO REPEAL THE VAGRANCY ACT TO HELP END ROUGH SLEEPING FOR GOOD

– NICKIE AIKEN MP

Nickie speaking during her Westminster Hall debate on the Repeal and Replacement of the Vagrancy Act 1824

At the last election, I promised to work with government to secure more services, resources and powers to end rough sleeping. Pre-pandemic Westminster had more rough sleepers than any other London borough. On entering Parliament, I began my campaign to meet my promise by securing the repeal of the Vagrancy Act which criminalises rather than helps those on the street turn their lives around. If we have any chance of ending rough sleeping, then we need a new approach and repealing this antiquated piece of legislation would make a good start.

I'm proud that the Conservative Party's manifesto in the 2019 General Election included a pledge to end rough sleeping for good by 2024. COVID-19 has been a game changer with the Government's 'Everyone In' strategy which saw an incredible 90% of rough sleepers provided with accommodation in hotels and hostels across the UK.

But what about the other 10%?

Throughout the first lockdown, 100 rough sleepers across Westminster refused help to remain out on the street. Sadly, many of them chose to do so due to a combination of underlying mental health or substance abuse issues, a deep-rooted mistrust of authority.

From my discussions and work with charities such as the Passage, St Mungo's, and Crisis, what is really needed to help those on the street is specialist medical and social support alongside the safety of a bed. More rough sleepers than not suffer from poor mental health and addiction issues, and these must be tackled head on if we are to prevent the revolving door of street to accommodation and back again that many rough sleepers currently experience. We must also re-establish mental health homelessness teams which work with outreach workers to assess rough sleepers and then refer them to accommodation which has all the health and addiction services they need.

To raise the profile of my campaign to scrap the Vagrancy Act, I led a parliamentary debate last month, entitled The Repeal and Replacement of the Vagrancy Act 1824.

During the debate, I outlined my view that it should be replaced with laws focusing on assertive outreach, providing rough sleepers with the help and support they desperately need.

Eddie Hughes MP, the Homelessness Minister responding to my debate, confirmed that the Government is looking to conclude a review of the Vagrancy Act "at pace". I'm confident that a major step forward towards ending rough sleeping may soon be reached.

I won't give up until I have ensured the repeal of the Vagrancy Act becomes a reality and that those on the street secure the services they need and deserve. ▲

If you would like to contact Nickie about any issue or concern, you can email: nickie.aiken.mp@parliament.uk or call 020 7219 4553.

You can also find Nickie on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram – @twocitiesnickie.

PLANNING ADVICE

If you get a notice of a planning application near you and you want advice, telephone our dedicated helpline: 07578 969509

THE BELGRAVIA SOCIETY

Invitation to the next 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 in: **thebelgraviasociety.com**. We can only accept a limited number, so first come, first served. **Our next video meeting is 8th June 2021**

THE LOST WATERWAYS OF BELGRAVIA

PART 2: THE RIVER WESTBOURNE

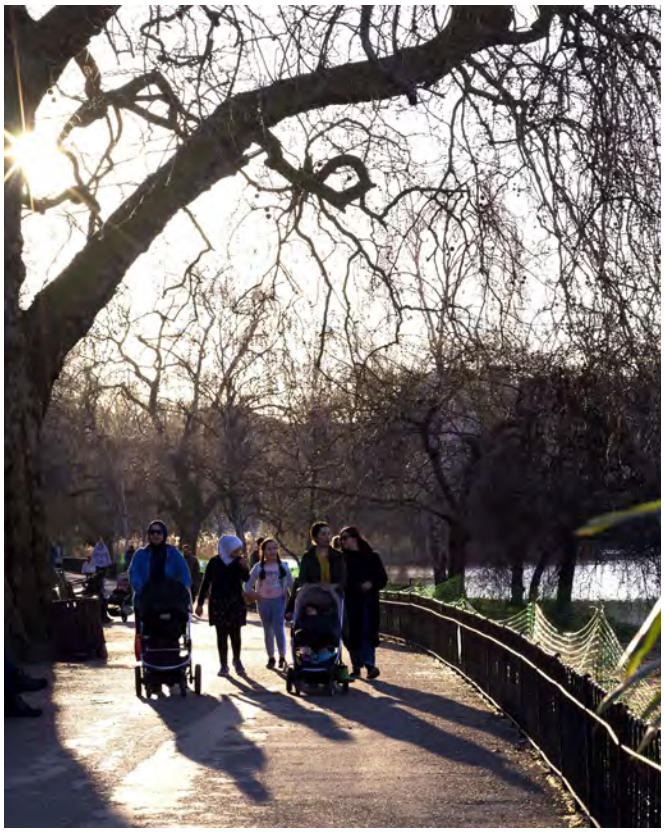
BY JOE BRIGGS

Just as ancient Iraq falls between the River Euphrates and the River Tigris ("meso-potamia", meaning between-rivers, in the same way as "hippo-potamus" inverts to mean "river-horse"), so Belgravia finds itself in the middle of two ancient rivers: the River Westbourne and the River Tyburn. Both rivers wind their way south from Hampstead, both were dammed to create artificial lakes (the Westbourne gives us the Serpentine and the Tyburn gives us the boating lake in Regent's Park), both join the Thames not far from Pimlico, and both are now underground forming part of London's complex network of sewers.

The Westbourne still marks the boundary between Westminster and RBKC, and is therefore a crucial part of the historic identity and topography of Belgravia. Imagine, if you will, a local boat ride down the Westbourne. Let's say you rent a rowing boat or pedalo on the Serpentine and the river simply takes hold. First, you cross a famous bridge that went over the river near where it exits Hyde Park, which was known as the "Knight's Bridge". You then pass under another bridge near where Lowndes Street meets Pont Street ("pont" meaning bridge, just as the Ponte Vecchio in Florence is the "old bridge"). You take in the sights and cruise gently down the route that today resembles Chesham Street.

Things get a bit hairy once you reach Sloane Square. Bourne Street was previously called Westbourne Street until it was changed in the 1950s, presumably to distinguish it from the Westbourne Street that now runs north of the Serpentine near Paddington. At the corner of Bourne Street and Cliveden Place there was a dangerous bridge known as the "Bloody Bridge", a notorious hangout for robbers, duellers and highwaymen. You see off these rogue characters, but the drama continues. Head further south and suddenly the river becomes a waterslide as it passes through a giant green pipe over the Sloane Square tube platforms, and over the heads of the oblivious passengers below.

Left: *Sloane Square tube where the river water travels through a pipe above the passenger platforms.*



The river then takes you along Holbein Place and past the Chelsea Barracks (an area now owned by a country not too far from Mesopotamia). You can see the Thames approaching as you pass along Ebury Bridge Road.

You can breathe a sigh of relief as you anticipate the end of a hectic journey; the end is in sight. But then – whoosh! – you get thrown sideways as the river abruptly joins one of Joseph Bazelgette's underground interceptor sewers next to the Thames, hurtling you along under the Victorian embankments as you make your way out to the sewage treatment works at Beckton (which today just so happens to be the largest treatment works in all of Europe!). Row, row, row your boat (efflu) ently down the stream; merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily, life is better clean. ▲

I would be thrilled to hear your River Westbourne stories if you'd like to get in touch – Joe Briggs: **jra.briggs@outlook.com**.

THE BELGRAVIA SOCIETY

Registered Chairty 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.thebelgraviasociety.com/online-membership-form

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

Alternatively, print the application form on page 25 and post your completed form to

63 Belgravia Court
33 Ebury Street
London SW1W 0NY

MESSAGE FROM CLLR RACHAEL ROBATHAN

Cllr Rachael Robathan is leader of Westminster City Council

We are now weeks away from the June 21st milestone when everyone hopes the remaining COVID-19 restrictions will be lifted. To borrow from the Prime Minister, the transition now is from jabs to jobs and how, as a council, we can help to revive Westminster's economy.

One important contribution is our al fresco dining scheme. Thanks to the support of residents, many of our restaurants and bars in Belgravia and other busy areas have created temporary pop-up eating spaces to help them survive. In the past year we have issued around 1,300 pavement licences, which equates to 200 new restaurants.

Other major initiatives from the council include the redesign of Oxford Street and the construction of the Marble Arch Mound, London's newest tourist attraction.

Our cultural institutions are a huge draw for visitors and, this year, we will launch our Inside Out arts festival which, together with the biggest names in the arts world, will create free outdoor performances and installations to enjoy.

We need our visitors and commuters back. While the pavements are busier, we are nowhere near pre-pandemic levels. Footfall around shops and restaurants is down by nearly three quarters and commuter numbers by just under two thirds. That is the scale of the challenge.

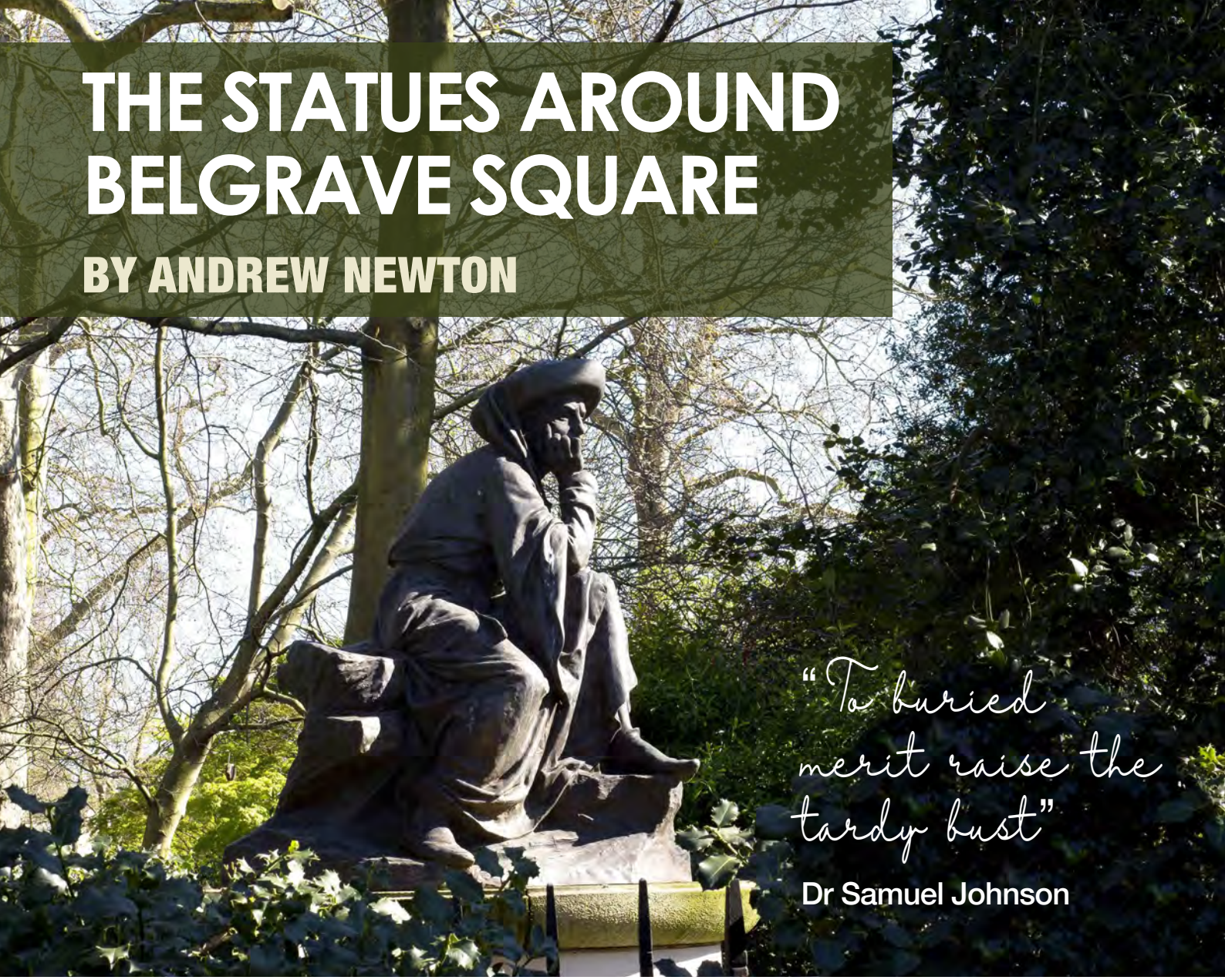
But while reviving the economy is critical, equally important is the fact that Westminster is home to 260,000 people. They want to live in a City that is safe, easy to move around, and green. To help deliver that, the council has just installed our 1,000th electric vehicle charging point, making Westminster a national leader in EV technology. There is now a 20mph speed limit on roads to make them safer and cut accidents, and we are working on ambitious plans to consolidate lorry deliveries to reduce traffic.

The council is also consulting on a new environment supplementary planning document which will ensure new developments reduce the resources and the emissions they produce. Sustainability is now in the DNA of our City.

Recovery will be a long haul, but working with residents who endured the pandemic year with stoicism, good humour and initiative, we are going to restore the City. ▲

THE STATUES AROUND BELGRAVE SQUARE

BY ANDREW NEWTON



Statue of Henry the Navigator (1394-1460)

Belgravia, indeed Central London, is the longstanding home of many a monument to historical figures and events. This heritage was brought into question last year when more than thirty statues of Christopher Columbus were torn down in the United States. A statue of slave trader, Edward Colston, was famously toppled in Bristol, and the standing of many an historical figure was reconsidered.

Opposite the Spanish Embassy at 24 Belgrave Square, set back from the road on the edge of the Square, is a statue of Christopher Columbus (1451-1506) by Tomas Banuelos, inscribed, "A gift from the people of Spain", installed in 1992. Columbus is seated with an arm stretched out perhaps towards the New World of America. Although we are now aware that America was discovered 500 years earlier (a Viking settlement was unearthed in Newfoundland in the 1960s), it is evident how Columbus is remembered here, as the discoverer of the Americas. No longer in mainland America, where many see him as, foremost, a colonial oppressor of indigenous people, as well as a bringer of European disease.

This current inquisition may well question the statue of Henry the Navigator (1394-1460), unveiled in 1969, opposite the

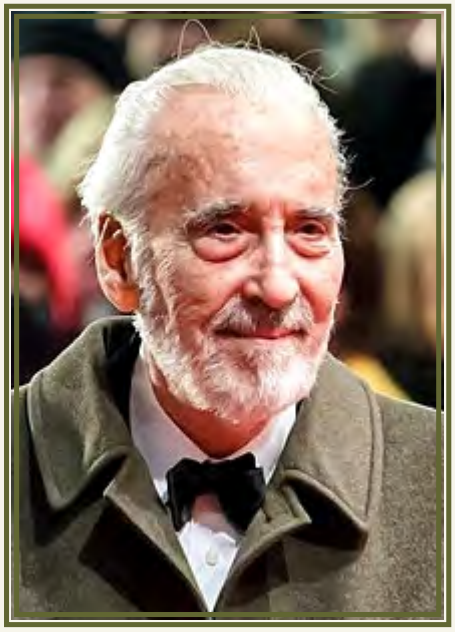
The statue of Christopher Columbus (1451-1506) by Tomas Banuelos, inscribed, "A gift from the people of Spain", was installed in 1992.

Portuguese Embassy, who is credited with first making contact with the African slave market. It is clear from the location of these statues that they are monuments to historical and epic heroes of the countries with embassies on Belgrave Square or nearby in Knightsbridge.

There is a more accessible monument to Jose de San Martin (1778-1850), liberator of Argentina, Chile and Peru, by Argentine sculptor, Juan Carlos Ferraro. It was unveiled in 1994 and stands opposite the Argentinian Embassy. There is a statue of Simon Bolivar (1783-1830) by Hugo Daini, liberator of Venezuela, Ecuador, Colombia and Peru (unveiled by James Callaghan in 1974, then Foreign Secretary), bearing the flattering inscription, "I am convinced that England alone is capable of protecting the world's precious rights as she is great, glorious and wise."

Perhaps these monuments, which nowadays may offend some, would benefit from further historical descriptions that would fully put their epic historical legacy on display to a more curious world. ▲

Reference: London Statues and Monuments *by Margaret Baker 1995 (first published 1968) by Shire Publications Ltd*



SIR CHRISTOPHER FRANK CARANDINI LEE 1922-2015

BY CHARLES OLIVER

Christopher Lee was well known for portraying villains, gaining recognition for appearing as Count Dracula in a sequence of Hammer horror films as well as many other films. He was born in Belgravia.

Christopher Lee was the son of an English Colonel and Italian aristocrat who was a cousin of the Italian Ambassador, Count Carandini and also the step-cousin of Ian Fleming. He was brought up in Eaton Square, the son of Lieutenant Colonel Geoffrey Trollope Lee and Countess Estelle Marie Carandini di Sarzano, an Edwardian beauty who was painted by Sir John Lavery and Sir Oswand Birley. His parents divorced and his mother remarried Harcourt George St Croix Rose, a banker and uncle to Ian Fleming.

He attended Summerfields Prep School and missed becoming an Eton King Scholar by one place but instead won a scholarship to Wellington where sons of Army officers got a discount. After he left school, he joined the RAF attached to the 260 squadron as an intelligence officer. In 1944 he was promoted to Flight Lieutenant and became attached to SOE, the SAS and the LONG RANGE DESERT GROUP. While in Italy, he met his cousin, Count Nicolo Carradini, later the Italian ambassador who suggested he become an actor. His great grandmother had become a successful opera singer; an early appearance was as a spear carrier in Laurence Olivier's *Hamlet*. His breakthrough came in 1957 when playing Frankenstein for Hammer Film Productions and then Dracula with his friend Peter Cushing, which he played 10 times. He was also a friend of the horror writer, Dennis Wheatley.

One of his later roles was in the James Bond Film, *The Man with the Golder Gun*, as Francisco Scaramanga (there was, in fact, a real person called Scaramanga who lived in Warwickshire). He also played the title role in *The Hound of the Baskervilles*.

Empire Magazine said that Lee's portrayal of Dracula was the 7th greatest portrayal of Dracula of all time. The British think he is the best! ▲

THE CLOCK IN THE ELIZABETH TOWER AT WESTMINSTER PALACE

BIG BEN

We have all missed the view of the Elizabeth Tower, in particular, its clock and, more particularly, the chiming of its bell which we know as Big Ben. The tower with its clock is a Grade I listed building and a UNESCO World Heritage site. It is undergoing a £79 million renovation. Costs increased because of the pandemic which delayed work. The clock has been silent since August 2017 apart from special occasions.

It was more than 32 years since extensive works were done on the clock. A specialist renovation team are restoring the severe rusting. They also discovered bomb damage which needed repair and was considerably worse than previously thought. The colour scheme will now revert to the original one planned by the Parliamentary architects, Charles Barry and Angus Welby Pugin.

Big Ben is thought to be named after Sir Benjamin Hall, Chief Commissioner of Works at the time when it was installed. In fact, the first bell was cast in 1856 in Stockton-on-Tees and cracked during tests. The second bell was cast at Whitechapel Bell Foundry but that also cracked. However, it was replaced in 1863 and has continued in use from then. The bell had been rotated some 90° and a lighter hammer was installed! The hammer alone weighs 200kg. The bell weighs 13.7 tonnes. The roof tiles at the top of the tower, some 3,433 of them, were made of cast-iron and had to be removed and taken to a specialist workshop for restoration.

Scaffolding from the top of the tower to the bottom of the clock will be removed and Big Ben will be temporarily reconnected to ring out on New Year's Eve. All the scaffolding should be removed by mid-2022 and the whole project should finish shortly afterwards.

We take for granted the appearance of the Elizabeth Tower, but there is an enormous amount of detail at the top around the clock and the tower itself, which has also been restored. We really do need to look at it and perhaps take our binoculars to appreciate just how amazing it is.

We are all used to seeing the light at the top of the tower when Parliament is sitting. The light is called the Ayrton Light and it also illuminates Big Ben's clock faces. It has been restored and will be reinstalled with new energy efficient electrical fittings. The hands of the clock will be reinstalled later this year and have been repainted in their original Prussian blue.

We look forward to seeing the iconic tower again and hearing Big Ben tell the time for us. ▲

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION

I do not expect many of you will readily know what the above is about. Some of you may remember, however, that Westminster City Council decided to ask those in the highest council tax band to make voluntary contributions to WCC. I think most people were sceptical and did not expect it to succeed.

The idea was launched in 2017 and became the first of its kind in the UK. The majority of the £1.2m raised – just under £1m – has been awarded since March last year. Generous donations continue during the pandemic with an additional £600,000 alongside tax bills.

Examples of beneficiaries are:

1. "Empowerment Through Employment" project, which delivers job-seeking support to former rough sleepers in the form of advice on returning to the jobs market.
2. The Cardinal Hume Centre, which has been providing support for isolated families with children aged under five.
3. The Mosaic Community Trust, which is working to reducing social isolation and loneliness in BAME South Asian communities. This project focuses on reducing loneliness experienced by people in the Church Street and Harrow Road areas of the City through community support workers; weekly one-to-one sessions, monthly group drop-in meetings and phone-based help.

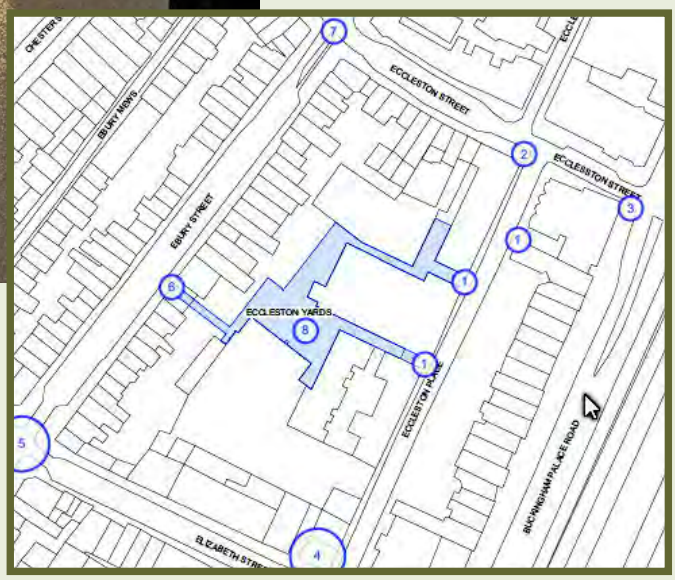
The scheme is managed by the City of Westminster Charitable Trust and their website may be found at **www.westminster.gov.uk/westminster-trust**. Do take a look –you will see some 27 very worthy organisations have benefited.

The councillors should be congratulated for suggesting such an innovative scheme and the contributors should be thanked for their generosity. We hope more in the community will feel able to make donations. The grants are awarded by the Trust which sits independently of WCC. ▲

Photograph courtesy of Clare Tollematche

Left: Ebury Street entrance

Below: Plan of Eccleston Yards



ECCLESTON YARDS

Grosvenor tell us they have been considering ways to improve Eccleston Yards so that it works better for the businesses that operate there, the residents who live nearby, and for visitors. They tell us that they have had a large number of conversations with the local community who have told them that Eccleston Yards and the entrances to it are very difficult to find. In response to this feedback, they are keen to increase the signage and would, therefore, like to understand how well you think the existing signage to Eccleston Yards works, as well as the ways you think it could be improved.

The timetable is:

- May: Sharing our objectives
- June: Update on the proposed design and how it responds to feedback
- Autumn 2021: Sharing the final designs and submitting a planning application
- Early 2022: Anticipated completion

Grosvenor are very anxious to hear our views to help shape their ideas. They have produced a short online survey. They are in early stages of the design process and it is important that they have your views. Originally, they wanted them by 1st June but can extend that for us to 10th June.

Click here to complete the survey or visit their website at **EcclestonYardsWayfinding@grosvenor.com**

Our own caveat about the access is to protect the residential nature of Ebury Street. The entrance to Eccleston Yards has been thoughtfully decorated in accordance with the seasons and any changes should not in any way provide large posters or items which are inappropriate in a row of houses. However, access from Eccleston Place is rather different. There are no residential houses there and we can see how important access and signage will be. We look forward to seeing the plans after the consultation. ▲

CHILDREN'S GROUP

As the Cundy Street development progresses, Grosvenor have undertaken to refurbish/restore the sculpture in the playground of Walden House known as the "Children's Group" and often referred to as the Obelisk, being a three sided pillar-type sculpture. It has been in the playground of Walden House and was given by the Duke of Westminster.

Before being moved to Walden House, the sculpture was displayed in an exhibition of British Decorative Art at the Whitechapel Art Gallery in 1925. It is believed to have been erected in 1926 at Walden House. As the subject was a children's group it seems appropriate that it was displayed in what was at that time a children's playground.

The sculpture was the work of Arnrid Johnston who was born in Uddevalla, Sweden (1895-1972). She moved to London in 1914 to study at the Slade School of Art under the tutorship of renowned sculptor, James Havard Thomas (1854-1921). She studied at the Slade from 1914-1917 and returned in 1919-1921.

During the 1920s and 1930s, Johnston established herself as a prolific sculptor, carving in a variety of materials, and was widely exhibited alongside distinguished contemporaries such as Moore, Hepworth, Skeaping, Lambert and Gertrude Hermes. However, unlike many of her contemporaries, there is relatively little information relating to Johnston's life, and her legacy has largely been forgotten.

"Children's Group"

In 1931, Kineton Parkes, a well-known art historian of the time, described the sculpture to be one of Johnston's most important works. We look forward to when the sculpture has been fully restored and is on display where it can be enjoyed by the community. ▲

NO MOW MAY – WILDFLOWERS AND WINDOW BOXES

BY SARA OLIVER

If you love gardening and wildlife, then take note, for the month of May has become 'No Mow May'. This is a time to let the grass grow and in so doing, discover the wildflowers that appear instead. This encourages insects and butterflies to forage and pollinate.

Currently there is a debate on whether to mow verges less frequently. Trials have been successfully made in Dorset to create wildflower verges by cutting and collecting long grass with a special machine (Grillo FD2200). Less frequent mowing is good for the environment and much appreciated by the public. The time, money and resources saved while mowing just a couple of times per year helps the flowers bloom and encourages butterflies, insects and, in turn, birds and other wildlife to flourish.

This should be encouraged everywhere, including London. More grass and less concrete pavements!

Should you have a window ledge, box or a garden in Belgravia, please think about planting perennials for a year of interest and colour. A well planted window box is a thing of sheer beauty. However, please be mindful of the wildlife in our conservation areas, as we are fortunate to have many green spaces and squares which are also home to Belgravia's birds, bees, bats and other wildlife. For them to stay healthy and appreciated, we need to make provisions.

Native wildflowers are crucial homes and sources of food to a huge range of creatures. Areas of wildflower meadow in the countryside are in decline as well, so introducing these to our spaces can play a key part in helping species stay alive and keeping insects and bees in business.

Try planting perennials and wild grasses such as heucheras which come in a variety of colours this year. Your gardens, flowerboxes and window ledges will come alive with the sound of insects and other wildlife in the 2020s. Belgravia will be on trend towards making London a much more pleasant place to live and work, not just for people but for wildlife too. ▲

#nomowmay

DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

55-91 Knightsbridge

Much of the final work required was being completed in May and the cabins and associated steelworks will be removed from William Street. Work on the site began on 5th June 2018 and is looking to complete this quarter of 2021. Throughout the time, the contractors and Four Communications, their representatives, have been keeping everyone informed and despite the pandemic, holding regular community liaison meetings.

Newson's Yard

Work continues and is well advanced. We hope to see how far it has progressed next month, when we are invited with the community to look at it.

In the meantime, we have some photographs to show the work continuing. We believe sometime next year it will be open for business. We will report more fully soon.

Cundy Street

Computer-generated image to show the proposed amendments to building A1 and C on Ebury Street. The building line of the original submission is shown in red.

You will know that WCC deferred its decision on the Cundy Street application by Grosvenor. This was so that Grosvenor and Westminster could consider the overshadowing which has serious consequences for the residents in Mozart

Terrace. Alterations have been submitted which will result in the top floor of the building on Ebury Street facing Mozart Terrace being significantly set back (see photograph).

There have been some other changes to improve matters. Some affordable housing has been lost and other flats in the development have been repurposed. You can see the changes by visiting Grosvenor's website: **www.cundystreetquarter.com**.

New restaurant in Buckingham Palace Road

On the site where Majestic Wine Warehouse was, the travel agents and the scooter shop are to be combined into one large restaurant. The development by Grosvenor is in early stages and we look forward to hearing more about it.

Marble Arch mound building begins

The construction of the Marble Arch mound which we reported in our February issue is now underway. The project is due to be open to the public in early July. We are told by WCC that it will provide a unique viewing experience across Hyde Park and Oxford Street and forms part of their wider plans for the Oxford Street district.

You can view the build process via this **live stream**. Do take a look – click on the link, then scroll down and you will see the live stream and more information as well.

Cleveland Clinic – 33 Grosvenor Place

Much of the interior is expected to have been completed in May, including furniture installation as well as medical equipment, laboratories, patient bedrooms, etc. The construction of the building is expected to be completed in September 2021. The gantry/pedestrian tunnel running along Grosvenor Place will be removed on 1st June. The date for replacing the bus stop has not been given and depends on TfL. ▲

It's been the wettest May for 160 YEARS!

Photograph courtesy of Caroline Oliver

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 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

THE BELGRAVIA SOCIETY

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:

Please tick all boxes you wish to apply.

☐ Today ☐ In the past 4 years ☐ In the future

THE BELGRAVIA SOCIETY

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Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate. Gift Aid is reclaimed by the Charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

SIGNATURE(S) ..... DATE .....

ADDRESS .....

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 EMAIL THIS APPLICATION FORM TO: **info@thebelgraviasociety.com**
OR POST TO: **63 BELGRAVIA COURT 33 EBURY STREET LONDON SW1W 0NY**

THE BELGRAVIA SOCIETY

THE BELGRAVIA SOCIETY MAGAZINE

The only independent voice for Belgravia

NUMBER 72
MAY 2021

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1168619

www.thebelgraviasociety.com