



Marylebone Association

Newsletter October 2022

Dear {Contact_First_Name},

Marylebone Association AGM

This year's AGM will again be held in November and for the first time in three years we are to have a live meeting. We do understand that many of our members are still not comfortable meeting in enclosed spaces where at all possible but we do hope that a good number will feel able to attend. We aim to secure a venue that will be as spacious as possible. Further details will be given in a mail shot to members later this month.

Westminster Pays Tribute to Queen Elizabeth II



Westminster was the focus of the entire world in September, hosting millions of mourners over the 10 days leading up to the Queen's funeral, which was watched by billions. The funeral was a sad occasion but also a recognition of the Queen's lasting legacy during a lifetime of public service.

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This was the first state funeral since that of Winston Churchill and was accompanied by one of the greatest logistical achievements in a generation. Our congratulations to all at Westminster Council who contributed towards making the occasion run so smoothly.

Proclamation Ceremony of King Charles III



For the first time in 70 years an ancient and solemn announcement proclaiming the new Sovereign was made on the steps of the Old Marylebone Town Hall. It was a very memorable occasion.

The Lord Mayor of Westminster, Cllr Hamza Taouzzale, read out the Royal Decree in front of councillors in robes, honorary Alderman, MP Nickie Aiken, Marylebone and Westminster residents.

Shire Horses Carry Floral Tributes





A pair of Shire horses worked to remove the many thousands of beautiful floral tributes left by the public to honour The Queen at The Green Park and Hyde Park.

The Shire horses pulled flatbed drays - a traditional open cart usually used in conservation work across the Royal Parks. The bouquets were transported by the Shire horses to the Leaf Pen in Kensington Gardens where the flowers will be blended with leaf litter and other green waste, to be composted and turned into mulch.

Andrew Williams, Park Manager, Kensington Gardens, The Royal Parks, said: "The thousands of tributes that have been left hold great sentiment for the people who travelled from all over the country to mark their respects for The Queen and they have created a tranquil and beautiful garden visited by so many."

Spiegeltent - Gone but not Forgotten



A Spiegeltent is a large travelling tent of Flemish origin, popular during the late 19th and 20th centuries. Only a few remain in existence today intended as an entertainment venue.

Indeed, up to last year only a few of us had ever heard of them. Since then residents in Marylebone, especially those who live directly on Cavendish Square, are only too well aware of what they are. Having been told last year the tent was to arrive in the square as a one-off Covid measure, there was some bewilderment as to why the Underbelly festival and Spiegeltent arrived in the garden square again this Summer.

Cavendish Square Garden is a public green space used by residents and workers in the area, it is a quiet, peaceful garden host to many birds and trees. The square is surrounded by many listed buildings and many notable occupants lived on the square once, such as Prime Minister Herbert Henry Asquith, Princess Amelia and the Duke of Portland.

Underbelly took over the square from May to July and hosted a number of shows and performances from a wide variety of talented actors, comedians and musicians. However, Marylebone residents felt this should not have taken place

musicians. However, Marylebone residents felt this should not have taken place here, in a garden square that people use as their only available green space.

Underbelly has now left Cavendish Square and is currently residing in Earls Court near Brompton cemetery.

Marylebone Square Top Out



The Top Out Ceremony was held on a beautiful sunny morning on the roof of Marylebone Square development where Marylebone residents, Cllrs and the Mayor of Westminster, were invited to view, and afterwards for a glass of champagne in the Concord offices on Marylebone Lane.

Marylebone Square has been a contentious development from day one. The Developer, Concord spent prior to getting the go ahead to make this happen. The architect has been sympathetic to the surrounding neighbourhood and with the builders have built something that will compliment the area. It will provide more retail and provide some much needed social housing.

However the building has cost the surrounding residents, the two schools and some of the smaller businesses a lot of disruption. One of the schools St Vincent's has benefitted from some financial support from Concord over the disruption the children and parents have encountered. The builders and workers on site have been very courteous and have shown respect to the residents in Marylebone and have tried to make this as smooth as possible

Concord have always worked with high standards and professionalism and will be gifting a large community space back to the community for communal uses/purposes. Since the farmers market indicated they would have no use for the hall as originally designed, the details of this still need to be worked through. Negotiations are however in progress and will keep readers informed of further developments as and when they occur in the pages of this newsletter.

Council's Careless Contractors

In a previous newsletter, we reported on some poor practices being employed by contractors working on behalf of Westminster City Council, specifically with regard to damage caused to household under-pavement vaults (former coal holes).

The digging-up of streets for various infrastructure, like EV charging points, is necessary and often welcome, but the council's contractors need to be well-informed by their client about what lies beneath the surface BEFORE they start to dig!

Among those affected by such activity not being properly managed or overseen have been residents in Molyneux Street. In one case the affected residents have run out of time, energy and patience with both council and contractor and they are now forced to meet the costs of repairs themselves or via an insurance claim. In another case, part of the pavement outside affected houses has been closed off, with fencing and ramps, for most of this year. Our latest information suggests the paraphernalia will remain in place until the end of November.

This is an unacceptable level of response from the contractor to an issue of their own making. The fencing and hoarding is blighting the street and, for over six months, certain residents have had reduced access to their house with trash piling-up on their doorstep as the area looks like a building site. At the time of writing, the contractor is signalling an intention to prioritise the issue and make good on the damage caused to properties. We can only hope, by the next newsletter, we will have an indication that this is, indeed, the case.

EV Charging and Cycle Hangers

Following a resident-led survey of the Harrowby & District Residents' Association (HDRA) area and adjoining streets, cycle hangars have been placed in Harrowby and Brown streets and a previously unmarked EV charging point is now properly marked-out in order to prevent conventional vehicles restricting the access of EVs.

It is great to have these developments, but there are still issues around provision of EV charging. For example, EV drivers can often act as a blocker to others seeking a charge because they treat the charging point as a parking bay. Somehow, we need to encourage those who are fully-charged to move-on and free up space for others.

Overall, of course, finding parking spaces can be challenging for all drivers, but we also have to accept that all our futures require a continued push to support greener, healthier and more sustainable forms of transportation other than the car. Hence why these cycle hangars and EV bays should be welcomed.

Rubbish in Soho

Meanwhile - across the road in Soho - the Soho Neighbourhood Forum is taking matters into their own hands. They have made public a very bold ambition to

remove all waste from Soho streets within 12 months. Newly released is a report by city planning consultancies Orbitl and Crystal Associates, titled 'Soho Comes Clean' on current waste management practices in Soho, and what could be done to improve them.

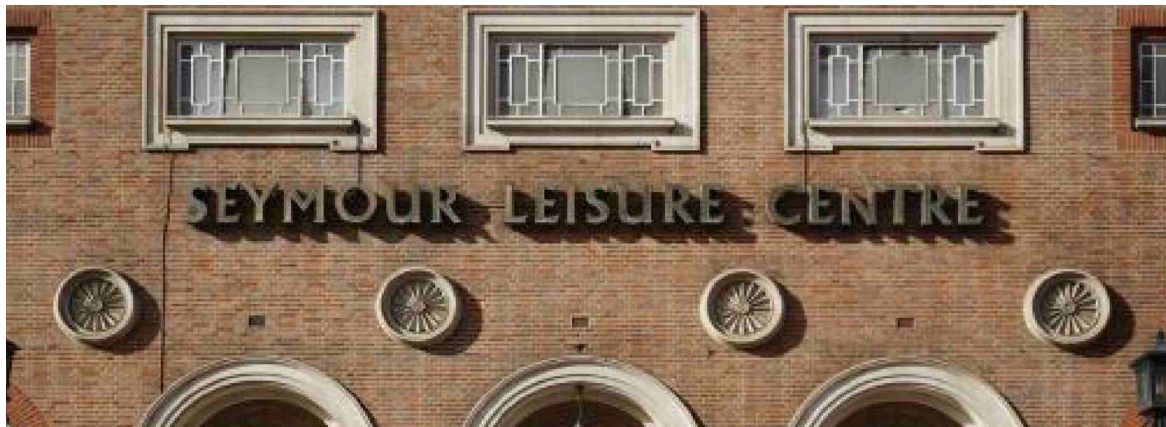
At least 17 waste providers operate within the focus area and the report makes 18 clear recommendations including the introduction of a Waste Engagement and Enforcement Officer for the area and installing fibre-optic connected CCTV at key fly-tipping trouble spots.

The study also recommends that WCC conduct a full review of routes and timings, including the possible abolition of one of the collections, or its replacement with a dedicated recycling collection, new consolidation points, the further roll-out of electric waste vehicles and smart bins, and education campaigns to deter fly-tipping and encourage more recycling.

The report engaged with around 130 businesses, large and small, comprising the key sectors of Hospitality, Retail and 'Other' (non-hospitality/retail businesses such as recording studios, advertising agencies, galleries and co-working spaces) as well as residents of Soho.

Councillor Patrick Lilley, WCC's Lead Member for Soho, welcomed the report, calling it 'an historic effort to change Soho for the better'.

Seymour Leisure Centre Consultations



Another round of consultation on redevelopment of the Seymour Leisure Centre took place at the end of September and there are 'in person' consultations at the beginning of October. (for full details see under Announcements below).

The Marylebone Association, like many other stakeholder groups, is engaged, but uncertain of the value of the consultation at this stage, especially as a previously published timetable indicated a planning application next month.

The intention to create a "hub" of an ever-increasing number of services seems set and whether this results in a sub-optimal library, a sub-optimal pool, a suboptimal play space etc. may only ever be learned once it is all in place. So, many of our residents are feeling a degree of consultation fatigue and the overwhelming sentiment is PLEASE JUST GET ON WITH IT!

Bond Street Opens to Crossrail

The Bond Street Elizabeth line station is scheduled to open on Monday 24 October 2022. Bond Street was in fact the station site that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II visited during construction in 2016 to mark the renaming of the railway in her honour. Since opening in May this year, Elizabeth line trains from Paddington and Abbey Wood have been skipping the station but will stop there from next month. The station is step-free from street to train with two lifts. It will have two brand new spacious ticket halls at street level, with an abundance of natural light, one at Davies Street, the other at Hanover Square.

Beside the Bond Street station entrance on Hanover Square is Medici Courtyard, the first public courtyard to open in Mayfair for more than a century. This area of public realm was created by Westminster City Council in collaboration with adjacent property owners and developers. The new station should relieve congestion at Oxford Circus station. It will be able to accommodate nearly 140,000 Elizabeth line passengers daily, adding to an overall station capacity of 225,000 across the Jubilee, Central and Elizabeth lines. As with current Elizabeth line services in the central section, Bond Street will start with a train service every five minutes and no services on Sundays, but from Sunday 6 November trains will be every two to three minutes, seven days a week.

Pedicab Clampdown Continues

This September saw four prosecutions in relation to pedicabs in the City of London Magistrates Court. The four pedicab riders received large fines, costs and victim surcharges totalling £4,230. Two riders were handed larger fines after being found guilty of the same offence earlier in the year.

Councillor Aicha Less, Deputy Leader, Cabinet Leader for Communities and Public Protection said: "This latest round of prosecutions will serve as a warning to pedicab drivers that we will not tolerate anti-social behaviour in Westminster. Residents and visitors have had enough of pedicab drivers playing loud music and blocking pavements, and the council will prosecute when necessary."

Diminishing Candy Stores

As reported last month the Candy stores are set to face stricter rules after Westminster City Council revealed plans to tackle those it believes are not paying tax. Mountains of counterfeit chocolate bars have been seized previously. Now WCC have launched an investigation into 30 of the stores that are already in progress for alleged business rate evasion totalling £7.6 million .

Council leader Adam Hug said: "The people selling overpriced and often out-of-date sweets are cheating the UK taxpayer and very often swindling their customers into the bargain." He added that not only do the stores "diminish the status of Westminster as a place to do business" but, by occupying the whole building, they reduce the housing supply for residents. "We are proud of the diverse resident population of Westminster," he said, "but this data suggests something troubling, that the use of Westminster as a location to hide ill-gotten gains in the property market is spiralling out of control".

Westminster War on Dirty Money

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Westminster has become the first local authority in the UK to launch a “dirty money” campaign in a bid to combat the capital’s reputation as the European centre for money laundering. The Council has signed the Fair Tax Pledge along with major companies and public sector organisations committed to ensuring transparency in tax.

Concerns that shops are being used as hubs for “dirty money” come as a report from the Centre for Public Data found the Westminster area had seen a 1,200% rise in the number of property owners registered to Russia and a 300% rise in owners registered in Jersey, since 2010.

Council leader Adam Hug also convened a meeting of major property owners, experts and officials to join the city in a new “Westminster against dirty money” campaign. A further proposal involves the idea for compulsory purchase of empty properties where the ownership remains unclear. This will probably be rather more difficult than is presently envisaged.

Cost of Living Emergency

At a meeting of the full Council on 21st September, WCC Councillors approved a motion to declare a Cost-of-Living Emergency, stating that the scale of the challenge needs “urgent and substantial action” from the Council, Government and others with the ability to help.

The Council believes around a quarter of Westminster households (31,000) face a living standards crisis due to rising costs of energy bills and food.

Westminster City Council had already announced a £5.6m local package to support vulnerable residents

Additional support for vulnerable residents this winter that was announced includes a network of welcoming places, which will provide opportunities for activities as well as a warm space, called Winter in the City. This handy directory is available via the dedicated [Cost of Living Support Hub](#) on the council’s website. This resource also signposts residents to available support to change their energy tariff; get advice on dealing with debt; and help residents find their nearest food bank.

The full text of the Council motion can be found [here](#).

Soho Plans on Hold

The previously proposed consultation plan, Vision for Soho, has been paused as a result of the issues raised by residents, including noise pollution, air quality, and the traffic implications.

The council is to re-examine how these issues can best be monitored and tackled in the interests of both the residential and business communities.

Councillor Geoff Barraclough, Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development has said: “Our communities are at the heart of everything that we do as a council and we want our residents and businesses to know that we are listening and acting on their concerns”.

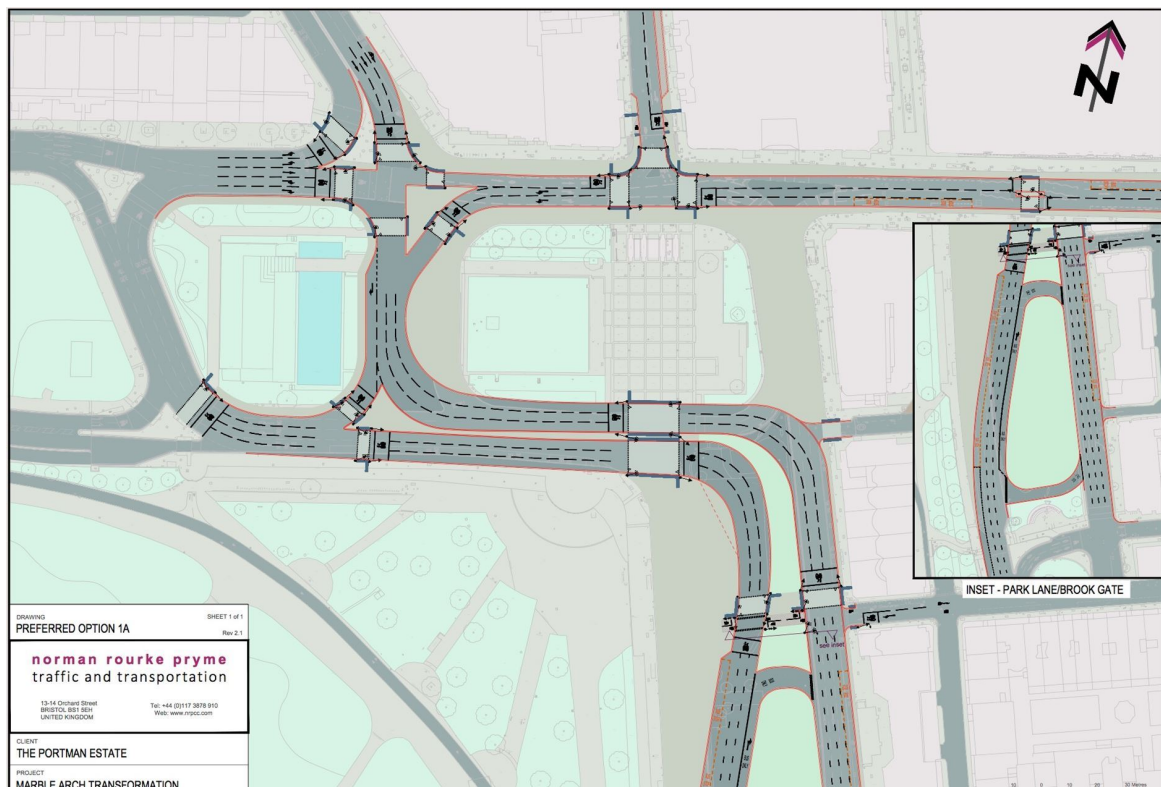
“We want Soho to remain a vibrant centre for a diverse range of the capital's creative and hospitality businesses for years to come but not at the expense of those that call it home”.

Pimlico Plan Referendum

On the 22nd September Pimlico Neighbourhood Plan was put to referendum of registered local residents. The Neighbourhood Plan received a resounding endorsement: 1617 voters voted “YES” and 123 voted “NO”

There have so far been 6 residential referendums on Neighbourhood Plans in Westminster. This is the highest vote for “YES” and the highest number of votes in total, with a high turnout. The next step is for Westminster City Council to formally “make” (adopt) the Plan and to apply it to planning applications in the area. If passed, the plan will help shape the future of planning in Pimlico until 2040, covering commercial and mixed-use development, design and heritage, housing and hotels, public realm, and the environment.

Rationalising Marble Arch



Some time ago the Portman Estate spearheaded a proposal (see above) to rationalise the present road structure through Marble Arch. It now appears that Westminster will look at taking some sort of scheme for this forward.

Councillor Geoff Barraclough, Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development says that he wants to see the road junction at Marble Arch reworked to celebrate the Arch and make getting between Oxford Street and Hyde Park more straightforward

Cllr Barraclough said that the council is to look at proposals for this - however, as this would be a TfL-led scheme, he was pessimistic about seeing it come forward any time soon.

Howard de Walden Returns to Profitability

The Howard de Walden Estate has reported a return to pre-tax profitability. Rental income on the 92-acre family-owned estate, rose by 2.7% helped by a more opportunistic environment post-pandemic' and rising footfall on Marylebone High Street - and a modest increase in residential rents. A recovery in rental income from its healthcare, residential and retail assets offset a drop from its offices. Chief Executive Mark Kildea is confident the company is 'in the best place to deal with the pending economic recession.

A Design Review Panel for Westminster

What Westminster is in great need of is an environment that includes new buildings of a high quality design - alas all too rare at present. Therefore many will be pleased to hear that after many years of lobbying for this, preparatory work is underway to set up a design review panel for Westminster. The idea is that this will provide independent and expert design advice on new developments to complement and support that provided by the council's design officers. This is a long awaited reform to the planning system which has been promised for some time so we are delighted to see it finally reach fruition.

The panel will support the implementation of the City Plan policy and work to ensure Westminster maintains and enhances its reputation for excellence in design in the built environment. The aim is to have a panel in place in early 2023. We hope to see our capable and professional planning team invited to take an active role in this.

Partial City Plan Review

The City Plan will be subject to a partial review, with initial consultation (formally known as Regulation 18) likely to launch next month. The new administration has taken the decision to partially review aspects of the Plan in order to meet the priorities of the new administration. WCC says there will be a strong focus on engagement with communities both throughout the formal consultation period but also in between consultation as evidence is gathered to support new policies and as they are drafted.

Retrofit Task Force

Many residents in Westminster are privileged to live in listed properties. However Westminster can be very noisy and the windows on these properties are not good at insulating their occupants from noise or indeed heat loss. Up until recently

double glazing, even to heritage standards, has not been allowed in these properties.

However, now this has become a possibility, albeit one requiring planning consent. The first of Westminster's 'How To' retrofit guides has been made available on the council's website. This guide focuses on upgrading windows to improve their energy efficiency, with advice on a range of measures including double glazing. Further WCC is looking at its own listed housing stock. Work is progressing to establish a task-force which will include experts from across the field of historic building retrofit. It will collaboratively identify challenges relevant to the retrofit of Westminster's historic buildings and develop and implement a work programme to address them.

Swiss Embassy Competition



The Embassy of Switzerland is the diplomatic mission of Switzerland in the United Kingdom. It consists of a large nineteenth-century building with a modern addition and is located halfway between Montagu Square and Bryanston Square. The partly listed building complex needs an overall renovation after more than 50 years of operation and numerous adjustments made in recent decades. It was decided to hold a competition for its restructuring and renovation.

A general planning team led by Studio DIA GmbH from Bern has won the competition: "We were looking for a project that takes into account the values of a cosmopolitan and modern Switzerland, sensitively deals with the historical structure of the building and also takes into account its embedding in the centre of London".

TfL Funding Finale

As we have previously reported, TfL has been at loggerheads with the Department for Transport since July 2020 over the amount of future funding. The saga is finally at an end - the two sides have now reached an agreement - but it is not one that the London Mayor is pleased with: "I want to be frank with Londoners this deal is far from ideal," he said. "The Government is still leaving TfL with a

- this deal is far from ideal, he said. The Government is still leaving TfL with a significant funding gap, meaning we will likely have to increase fares in the future and still proceed with some cuts to bus services.”

The deal, which runs until the end of March 2024, follows four short-term emergency funding agreements. The government will fund the difference between TfL's costs and revenue up to an agreed annual limit, with overall funding of just under £600 million through March 2023, and £565 million in the following 12 months.

Ridership remains short of pre-Covid levels and Mayor Khan has agreed to cost saving measures including pushing forward with the introduction of driverless trains and submitting proposals to reform workers' pensions. The new funding will allow for upgrades including new Piccadilly line trains, as well as modernisation across the District, Metropolitan, Hammersmith and City and Circle lines. However, the Mayor warned that fares in the capital will likely have to rise to make up for an expected shortfall in TfL's finances. TfL workers oppose the plans and have staged walkouts in recent months.

Marylebone Diary



Frieze Sculpture exhibition is open now in Regents Park featuring 19 large scale works by artists including John Giorno, Ro Robertson and Ugo Rondinone. It has been curated by Clare Lilley for the tenth consecutive year running. It is free and open to all!

A simple phrase by Tim Etchells, 'Don't Look Back', cut into weathering steel stood out. He asks us to think about 'a refresh' in dialogue with context and landscape. Shaikha Al Mazrouis folded steel sculptures which resemble red balloons and seeks to represent tension, weight and space.

Beverly Peppers curve is stunning, at 96 years old, the American born Italian based sculptor has spent six decades bending metal to her will and rewriting the rules of modern art.

David Bowie exhibition Atlas Gallery Chiltern Street - Moonage Daydream: The life and times of Ziggy Stardust on the 50th anniversary of Bowie's acclaimed album. A beautiful book is available to buy. Photographs by Mick Rock capture the moment and span of Ziggys 18 month reign. It is definitely worth a visit.

Back to School and Covid!

All children went back to school this month to the relief of their exhausted parents but to their dismay many were off school and at home again within a week due to Covid. Some children experience mild symptoms but some experience high temperatures, headache, nausea and night terrors.

Parents are urged by NHS GP practices to think about getting the Covid vaccine for their children if they have not already done so. They are also offering polio vaccines for children too.

A Day in the Life of...

Below we have the first in what we hope will be a new regular feature- readers' contributions to the newsletter, focussing on a particular aspect in the life of Marylebone. We kick off this month with an interesting overnight experience at the Regent Park Zoo:

Roaring Overnight Success at London Zoo

Lucky us to be living here in Marylebone! Did you know we are only a short walk away from being transported to a truly magical overnight jungle experience on a par with the child-like excitement of visiting Euro Disney?

The ZSL London Zoo Lodges are situated in extraordinary surroundings inside their Land of the Lions exhibit, where guests are able to bed down in lodges for the night within roaring distance of the Asiatic lions.

My nine year old daughter and I stayed on a Saturday overnight in early September. Set in the heart of London Zoo and the greenery surrounding Regent's Park, it felt tropical and other worldly. What a night's escape from the bustle of London without ever leaving the city, and for us, without barely even leaving Marylebone!

You don't need to have kids to enjoy this experience – actually London Zoo offers a range of night types, including 'Adults Only'. There are nine Zoo lodges, and on our overnight visit there were a mix of families with kids, couples, and single friends paired up for a unique and fun night out. Inspired by the welcoming charm of hotels in the lions' native Gujarati home in India, the beautifully decorated lodges have a traditional feel and are each themed to a different animal found living with the lions in the Gir forest. We stayed in 'Oriole' lodge. Each lodge has a private veranda so that you can sip your bedtime tea whilst listening to the sounds of the Zoo at night.

We checked into the Zoo Lodges at 4.30pm, just as the Zoo was closing to members of the public. The overnight experience kicked off shortly afterwards with complimentary drinks (prosecco for me, apple juice for her), private tour and educational talk. I didn't know London Zoo is nearly 200 years old - did you?! (The 200th will be in 2026).

We learned that only one state in India – Gujarat – has lions, and attempts to create some peaceability between resident lions and resident farmers, the Gujarati government will provide above-market-price compensation to farmers whose livestock have been eaten by lion! Our Zoo Guide explained that London Zoo has established Land of the Lions as a 'Noah's Ark' solution in case the

Gujarati lion population is ever decimated. As the tour continued, it was also peppered with fun facts such as learning that part of Harry Styles recent video 'As it Was' was shot in the original modernist penguin enclosure!

Breakfast at 8am, then our final tour of the experience included a fascinating visit and talk with their Komodo Dragon. We also had the good fortune of seeing the tiger cubs joyfully frolicking in the early morning sun with their mum while their father stomped around in a back enclosure. A zoo keeper passed with food for the gorillas, and we laughed when we learned how much our gorilla cousins like popcorn and often enjoy sipping herbal tea in the evenings too!

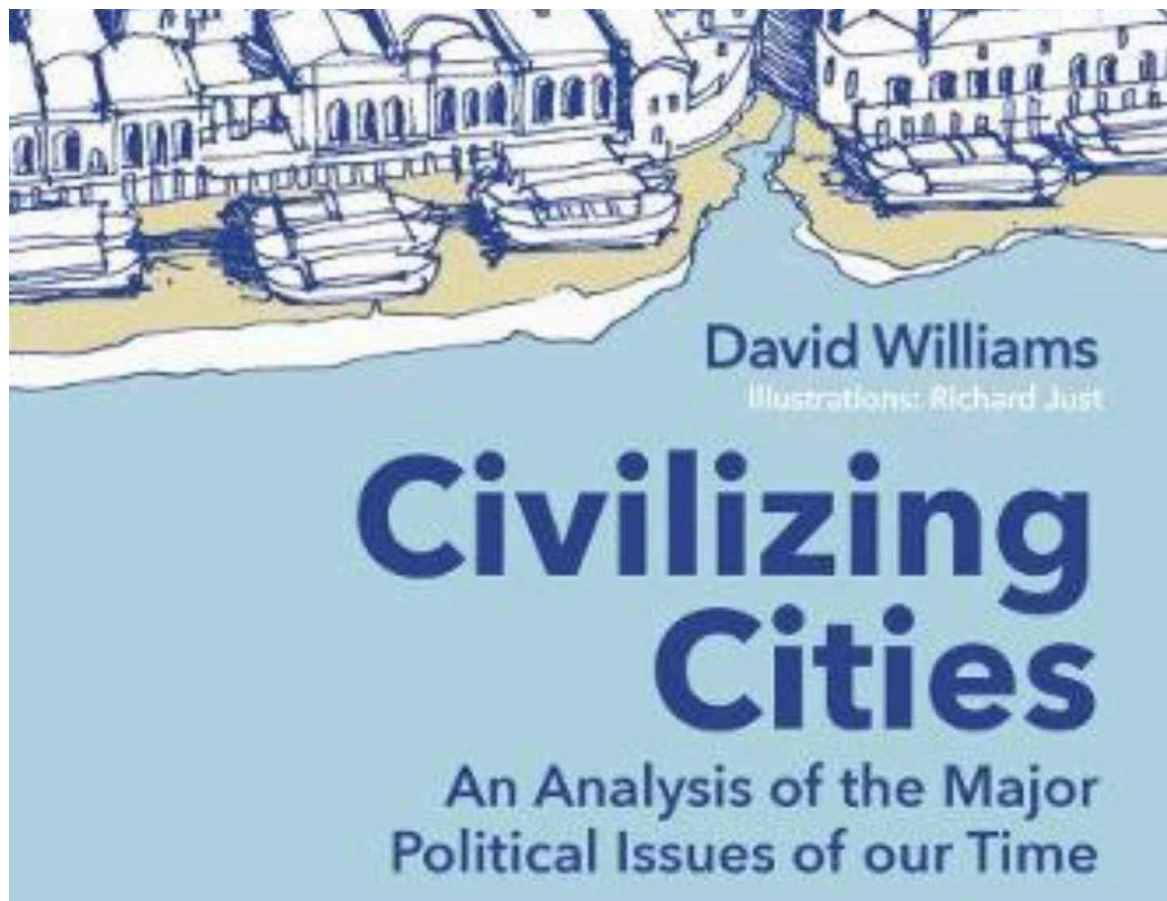
The whole experience was exciting, stimulating and had a Jurassic-park-surrealness at times. I cannot recommend it highly enough, whether you have kids or not. It's not cheap, but it is a very special experience and your money goes towards the upkeep and conservation work of ZSL. A worthy cause and a wonderful night out – what's not to love about that opportunity on our Marylebone doorstep!

Niamh O'Keeff

ZSL London Zoo Lodges - Stay over at the Zoo

Announcements

Civilizing Cities



A book by David Williams

“Politics is not the art of the possible. It consists in choosing between the disastrous and the unpalatable.” (Galbraith) This is wise. In planning, we've gone further, approving developments that are both disastrous and unpalatable, largely as the result of centralised control.” David Williams

The book explains how Cities affect all our lives - Civilizing Cities - and expands considerably from these foundations in three parts: past, present and future.

To improve cities, we need to replace 'normative' and 'market-led' planning ideologies based on the bulldozer. Planning should be pragmatic, based on conservation and small-scale 'intensification'. We also need practical sustainable policies, which the National Planning Policy Framework signally fails to provide. For this, we need politicians with the intellectual rigour, social understanding and felt need for fairness, like Clement Attlee, Lloyd George and, in Birmingham, Joseph Chamberlain.

Finally, the book briefly surveys the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the need to devolve more powers to local councils, covering education, health, transport and welfare etc. Planning must also return to its roots in public health to create healthier cities with less pollution, inequality, unemployment and isolation.

Seymour Centre Consultation

WCC are holding in-person events this week of October, for all who wish to visit face-to-face to talk through the updated designs and provide any feedback. There is also one more webinar taking place for those unable to join.

These will be taking place on the following dates and times:

In person events:

- Tuesday 4 October, 2pm to 5pm, 35 Church Street, NW8 8EU
- Wednesday 5 October, 4pm to 7pm, 35 Church Street, NW8 8EU
- Thursday 6 October, 2pm to 5pm, Seymour Leisure Centre, Studio 1, W1H 5TJ
- Saturday 8 October, 1pm to 4pm, Seymour Leisure Centre, Sports Hall, W1H 5TJ

Online webinars (via Zoom)

- Monday 10 October, 6-7pm, Zoom, sign up for this webinar – register here

Full details of these events and details of our proposals are available on the WCC website. You can get in contact via the project email SeymourProject@westminster.gov.uk if you have any questions.

Silver Sunday Celebrations

Silver Sunday takes place on Sunday 2 October, in its 10th year and with more events than ever, it promises to be a great weekend.

Whatever you enjoy, there'll likely be an event for you. Whether history tours of London Zoo, a visit to the Royal Albert Hall, dancing, singing and lots of tea and cake, there's something for everyone.

Spread the word, tell your parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbours and friends. See below for a few of the great events on offer, and get a full list of what's on in your area at the Silver Sunday website

Support Local Youth

Are you an organisation based in Westminster or Kensington and Chelsea? Are you interested in providing activities and healthy food for children during the school holidays?

If so, you can apply for a grant as part of the Holiday Activities Programme (HAF) funded by the Department for Education until 2024. The Grant will support you in offering free provision and meals throughout the Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays for children and young people who are eligible for Free School Meals. Applications are open now and close at midday on Friday.

Marylebone Events

NEW LONDON THEATRE OPENING

Marylebone Theatre, London's newest venue, opened on 29th September with their launch production 'Dmitry'. Dmitry, running from 29th September to 5th November, has a fantastic cast led by Tom Byrne (The Crown) and Poppy Miller (Harry Potter and the Cursed Child). For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.marylebonetheatre.com/productions/dmitry. For a limited time only, use the exclusive new code DMITRY15 for 15% off all tickets for performances between 5th October and 15th October.

POPPY VOLUNTEERS

Poppy Week will soon be upon us – and plenty of opportunities for people to help this worthwhile cause in a variety of ways, from selling poppies (and other merchandise) direct or helping with the mammoth 'behind the scenes' organisation and distribution. Would-be volunteers will be warmly welcomed if they contact rosemaryforgan@gmail.com or phone on 020 7916 9355.

Association Events

MARYLEBONE WALK – MARYLEBONE RESIDENTS AND THEIR HOMES Saturday 1st October 2-4 pm

As Marylebone residents we are all probably aware of the famous writers such as Charles Dickens, Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Wilkie Collins who lived here before us, and indeed the musical links with The Beatles and Jimmy Hendrix. However, there is a lot more to discover in this afternoon stroll around the streets of Marylebone, with Blue Badge guide, Janice Leverage.

We'll take about 2 hours to walk around our local area and discover more about our favourite part of London. Only 20 places are available and tickets cost just £12. Please contact Lois German to reserve your space before they all sell out: lois.german@marylebone.org or telephone 0207 487 2706.

DINNER - ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE

Wednesday 2nd November 7pm - 10pm

Royal Society of Medicine - 1 Wimpole Street W1G 0AE

We are pleased to be able to invite you to join us for this evening in the private Wimpole Dining Room at the Royal Society of Medicine. Start the evening with a glass of Prosecco for a drinks reception before we sit down for a three course dinner with wine. Individual pre-selection from the dining menu will be required, with details of the menu provided when booking. The cost per person is £60 and advance payment will be required. We have a limited number of places and expect this to be over-subscribed so recommend early booking to avoid disappointment. Open to residential and business members, to book please contact lois.german@marylebone.org or telephone on 0207 487 2706.

REGULAR ASSOCIATION EVENTS

BOOK CLUB

Wednesday 5 October at 6.30 pm

The King's Head, 13 Westmoreland Street, London W1G 8PJ

Members meet upstairs at The King's Head pub in Westmoreland Street. Anyone who is interested in joining in should contact Liz Queenan. Meetings have changed to the first Wednesday of each month but still commence at 6.30. This month's choice is Grey Bees by Andrey Kurkov. All books read are available on paper and on e-readers. For more information contact Liz Queenan (liz.queenan@marylebone.org) or tel: 020 7486 3709.

PUB EVENING

Monday 10th October at 6.30pm

The Larrik, 32 Crawford Place, London, W1H 5NN

Continuing with our regular bi-monthly pub evenings at this cosy, warm and welcoming Gastro pub with great food, wines, beers and cocktails. Everybody is welcome so do pop along whether you are a regular or new to our pub evenings, where you will be greeted by our hostess for the evening Ann Marie Johnson.

SCRABBLE CLUB

Tuesday 11 and 25 October from 5-7 pm

The Duke of Wellington, 54a Crawford Street, London W1H 2HQ

The Scrabble Club meets in the private dining-room at The Duke of Wellington pub in Crawford Street on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, from 5 until 7, with Scrabble sets and dictionaries provided – and all levels of players are very welcome. Anyone interested in joining and/or wanting further information should contact rosemary.forgan@marylebone.org or 0788 789 1977.

Mailing Address: Marylebone Association, 229 Great Portland Street, London, W1W 5PN

If you have news get in touch by emailing news@marylebone.org

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