

Wandsworth Society

March 2011

The Society Soirée



Sunday 3rd April
7:15 for 7.30.
at 4 Patten Road, SW18 3RH

Clariphonics

a brilliant group of four clarinetists, will play a very varied programme from arrangements of the classics to up-to-the-minute 21st century music specially composed for the group. It will be most entertaining and highly skilful.

They will begin with

Jim Pywell - 3 Beginnings (1996)

Robert Fokkens - Glimpses of a half-forgotten future (2008)

Arnold Cooke - Concertante Quartet (1977)

Henri Tomasi - Trois Divertissements (1964)

Stephen Sondheim - Send in the Clowns

and in the second half

Astor Piazzolla - Histoire du Tango

Claude Arrieu - Deuxieme Quatuor de Clarinettes (1983)

Johannes Brahms - Minuet from the Serenade No.1

Mike Curtis - A Klezmer Wedding (1996)

Book soon to avoid disappointment!

Places at £15, concessions £10, from the Wards
on 020 8874 4938 or
davidwb.ward@virgin.net



Wild Coast: A Journey Through The Guianas

John Gimlette

talks about his new book – the Society's contribution to the Wandsworth Arts Festival



Between the Orinoco and the Amazon lies a fabulous forested land, barely explored. Much of Guiana seldom sees sunlight, and new species are often tumbling out of the dark. Shunned by the conquistadors, it was left to others to carve into colonies. Guyana, Suriname and Guyane Française are what remain of their contest, and the 400 years of struggle that followed.

Du Cane Court

We hope you enjoyed reading about Du Cane Court in the Bedside edition of the newsletter. If you would like to get the full story A History of Du Cane Court : Land Architecture, People and Politics by Greg Vincent can be bought online or from local bookshops.

Wandsworth Museum

Not only is the Wandsworth Museum stuffed full of interesting stuff you can also have a party there. The café, Exhibition Hall and education spaces can all be hired. The spaces are also suitable for all sorts of occasions, having fun is not compulsory, but we think it is the better way.

020 8870 6060

events@wandsworthmuseum.co.uk

www.wandsworthmuseum.co.uk

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Skydec

You may have been aware that the owners of Skydec were served with an enforcement notice to remove the roofs of the main building, and the car lift building, and replace them with roofs as shown on the approved drawings. You might have known that they were supposed to have done that by 19 February 2011.

You probably have noticed that the development has not changed since it was completed in 2007.

The owners are attempting to persuade the Council to accept having the roofs remodelled instead of replacing them. Two planning applications have been made recently showing the proposed remodelling. If you want to see what is proposed and comment on the applications the drawings can be seen on the Council's web site at

<http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/gis/search/Search.aspx>.

the application numbers are 2011/0459 or 2011/0458.

And you can see the Society's response on our web site under Current concerns wandsworthsociety.org.uk/concerns.htm where we have also included drawings of the proposals.

The owners were told back in 2007 that the development was not built as approved. They made an application to keep the buildings as they are, this was refused. An enforcement notice was issued, they appealed against that, and lost the appeal. We now have the current applications. This has taken four years. We trust these current applications will also be refused - but what then?

Our February soirée

Suddenly we were in the 1780s: an elegant drawing room, an old-style clavichord, a new-fangled fortepiano, and two suave musical gentlemen, formally dark-suited – the one with white tie and waistcoat, the other with bright multi-coloured accessories. We anticipated eagerly a programme of song and keyboard by those celebrated contemporary friends CPE Bach, Joseph Haydn and WA Mozart. Thus, the enchanting Society Soiree on Sunday February 6th.

A thoughtfully arranged sequence of songs of love secular, spiritual and philosophical, interspersed with instrumental pieces, was performed with high artistry by our host David Ward on his exquisitely crafted keyboards (the rarely heard, and hard to hear, clavichord being a salutary test of our auditory concentration!) and the German tenor Norbert Meyn. He, having begun his singing career in his native Weimar,

came to London 14 years ago to study at Guildhall, and stayed – being now a professor there and at the Royal College of Music, and language coach for the BBC Proms and various symphony choruses and recording companies. It was only to be expected, then, that Norbert's delicately humorous introductions to his groups of songs would be in perfect English, as was his rendering of three contrasting songs composed by Haydn for his London audiences: a soulful Shakespeare setting, a wispy ghostly number and a rip-roaring sailor's shanty.

David's sensitive accompaniments and his spirited accounts of solo pieces by our three composers – especially Mozart's shockingly modern (to our 18th century ears!) Minuet in D – completed an evening of pure delight and interesting new musical encounters. Our warmest thanks to them both.

Community Garden

The Bramford gardeners have been busy. And they would like some help. They are looking for Windowsill Gardeners. They have no greenhouse, so get in touch with them for FREE seeds to grow at home. When they've grown into seedlings, go down to the community garden and plant them.

Any designers out there? And they need someone with brains and imagination to come up with a clever water

harvesting system, since we don't have mains water on site - form an orderly queue

emails to - ttwandsworth@hotmail.com

Dates for your diary
17th April PEA DAY! Sow Early Peas
15th May SPRING HERBY VEG PLANTING