

## The Barn and Eco Garden at the Eastern Curve



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**Once an overgrown strip of abandoned railway land, the Eastern Curve is now a tranquil urban garden. The transformation, carried out by MUF Art/Architecture, landscape architect J&L Gibbons and architect collective EXYZT, was one of the winners of the Hackney Designs Awards 2010 (see p07).**

The Eastern Curve was identified as one of 76 micro-projects in the 'Making Space in Dalston' project by J&L Gibbons and

MUF Art/Architecture. In 2009 EXYZT constructed and occupied a five-story scaffold windmill and bread oven alongside a wheat field installation by Agnes Denes – this was curated by the Barbican and visited by 12,000 over three weeks.

From there the Barn evolved as an open-sided structure. Built using recycled materials, it provides protection from the rain and offers flexibility of use. The scheme features a rainwater collection system and furniture made in community workshops onsite. The garden includes growing patches as well as a meadow and trees.

Judges of the Hackney Designs Awards commented: 'The barn structure was simple and yet very attractive. Its five separate but open spaces were clearly being used in a variety of ways during our visit. Other groups of people were scattered throughout the garden, drinking tea and enjoying the sunshine. The Barn and Eco Garden is an excellent example of how an abandoned piece of land can be affordably transformed into an asset that enhances the locality and benefit the community. Every inch has a strong sense of community spirit.'

# Where shall we all live?

By Vincent Stops

**The demographers tell us births in London are outstripping deaths, net migration from inside and outside the UK will continue and household size is decreasing. Add to that the existing un-met need for housing and you arrive at a figure of 33,380 homes that need to be built across London per year up to and beyond various planning horizons, the pre-eminent plan being Mayor Johnson's replacement London Plan now approaching adoption.**

The previous Mayor, Livingstone, and now Mayor Johnson have committed to plan for these homes within London's built-up areas and to reduce the impact on the environment.

The strategic planners' solution is to promote housing on available 'brownfield sites' – often ex-industrial land – at very high densities, close to town centres and public transport.

Much of this development will happen in east London. Tower Hamlets, Newham and Greenwich are pencilled in for the greatest numbers. Hackney comes a third down the table in absolute numbers, but high up for a geographically small London borough.

In Hackney this means 1160 units a year for the next 20 years with a focus on Dalston, Hackney Central, Hackney Wick, Manor House and several of Hackney's own housing estates, most notably Woodberry Down. The logic is that these

locations are either on rail corridors or in town centres with good public transport, allowing a low reliance on private transport. There will, of course, be numerous other development sites not associated with these areas – windfall as the planners describe them.

Hackney has seen house building at this level for a number of years now and is doing particularly well, meeting its targets and securing family-sized accommodation. Hackney delivered the second highest number of affordable homes in London after Tower Hamlets in 2008-09.

Nationally, over the longer term the UK has failed to build enough housing to meet the need. The new Government says it wants to devolve planning to local people, which, experience suggests, will reduce the numbers of planning permissions granted in the short term. In the medium term, however, the Government is likely to have to return to responding to the evidence of

need and to adopt a more centralist role in promoting house building.

Essentially the purpose of the planning process is to provide the framework for housing, social and economic infrastructure whilst reducing the impact on the environment. We have choices around the liveability of our cities, but much of that will be political choices outside the planning process.

In my view the planners are right. We should be building in the most sustainable locations and at high densities. We may not all be able to have as much private amenity space as we would wish for, given the constraints on space and the nature of the sites, but we should not compromise on design quality, space standards and liveability. Finding space for social infrastructure is important, but not insurmountable.

Our approach to transport and the private car is a key consideration. Private transport is a large consumer of land and has a huge impact on our local and global environment. If we want to live in one of the most densely populated urban areas in the UK and we want to meet our other aspirations for liveability and sustainability, the logic is that we have to be prepared to compromise on universal access to our own private cars.

## Chatsworth Road Neighbourhood Plan

**Chatsworth Road has recently been described as the 'last of the real high streets'. Yet Chatsworth Road – along with the surrounding neighbourhood – is changing at an unprecedented rate. New people have been moving into the area, new shops have been opening and the re-introduction of the market is well on its way.**

However, despite all the benefits that these changes bring, local residents worry that what attracted them to the area in the first place will gradually be undermined. Property prices have already escalated, family houses are being converted into one-bedroom flats and landlords are expecting higher rents from their shops.

Many residents witnessed what happened to the not-so-distant Broadway Market a few years ago, and the pitfalls that gentrification can bring.

In response to this, the Chatsworth Road Traders and Residents Association

(CRTRA), working with urban designer Euan Mills, has embarked on an ambitious task of creating a Chatsworth Road Neighbourhood Plan.

The plan, which will be developed in partnership with the local community over the next few months, will set out how local residents would like their area to change in the long-term future, and set out clear principles of how this change should happen.

At a presentation on 19 January, the CRTRA launched the study and suggested some emerging ideas of what these aspirations could be. They included

prioritising local businesses, encouraging a diversity of people and uses, and ensuring the area is accessible to all modes of transport.

Some see this as a new approach to community involvement in the planning process. Euan Mills says: 'For the first time the community is taking a proactive approach to establishing a vision for the area before development pressure becomes overwhelming'.

Over the next few months local traders and residents will see how the plan develops and the extent to which they might be witnessing an exemplar of local empowerment.

If you would like to know more about the plan, email [plan@chatsworthroade5.co.uk](mailto:plan@chatsworthroade5.co.uk) or follow the progress on the CRTRA website ([www.chatsworthroade5.co.uk/](http://www.chatsworthroade5.co.uk/)) or through twitter [@chatsworthroad](https://twitter.com/chatsworthroad).

# Building Watch

## The George

Local residents are currently campaigning against the redevelopment of The George on the corner of Glyn and Glenarm Roads in Lower Clapton. Although it has not been operating as a pub for several years, the previous occupants regularly ran well-attended weekly folk and jazz nights and other community activities. It is one of the last remaining pub buildings in the neighbourhood that has not been demolished or converted in the past few years. The pub retains many original features including the horseshoe bar.

The proposed redevelopment would see the pub converted into nine self-contained flats, spelling an end to 130 or more years as a pub and venue. Several councillors have voiced their support for retaining the building as a pub or community resource and an online petition has raised over 1000 signatures. The consultation period ended on 26 January. Supporters hope the public campaign will convince the Council to reject the change of use for the building. *To get in touch or sign the petition visit <http://thegeorgepube5.blogspot.com/>*



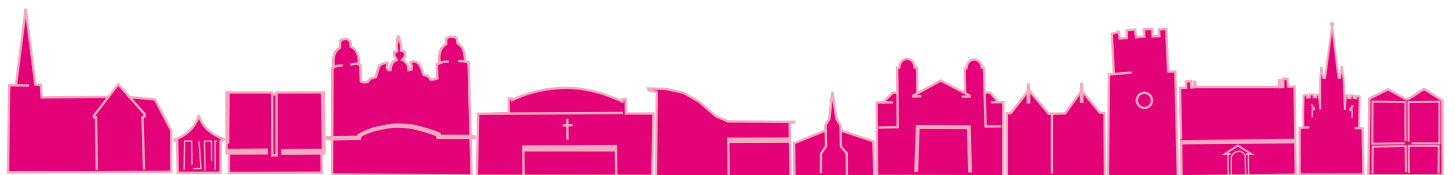
## Clissold Park and House Restoration Project

The biggest transformation of Clissold Park in more than a century is moving ahead following the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and Big Lottery Fund's (BLF) £4.46m grant. The project includes: restoring the Grade II listed Clissold House; restoring a section of the New River; extensive maintenance to the two park lakes; renovating the animal enclosure; creating a new play and wheels park area; and other improvements to enhance the overall appearance of the park.

Repairs to Clissold House have included a new roof, renewal of rainwater pipes and gutters, and repairs to the stone window surrounds. Exterior scaffolding has now

been removed. Internally, work is underway on pipes for central heating and water supplies and on electrical services, including computer cabling. An internal lift will allow visitors access to the whole building.

Work, due for completion in spring 2011, continues on a new deer enclosure and a new sports zone and natural play area. The deer enclosure will provide: additional space; purpose-built secure fencing; a quiet, secure shelter for the deer; and a new, improved planting scheme to give the deer better natural foraging. Two pedestrian bridges are planned for the newly expanded river in the park.



## LOVE LOCAL LANDMARKS x

By Lisa Rigg

They say that beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Why not wear your heart on your sleeve and declare your love for a local building? It could be one that is showing its age a bit, a young heart stopper, or that unique one-off that only you can understand. So, to all you lonely hearts...

Is there a building in Hackney that makes you go weak at the knees? A building that you love, but that goes unnoticed by everyone else? Hackney Council and the Hackney Society are currently reviewing Hackney's Local List and looking for special buildings to add to the register.

Local listing lets people know which buildings are of value to the local area and gives them a special status. These buildings are also given due care and consideration by the Council when making decisions that affect their future.

A building, or feature like an artwork or monument, should only be nominated if it fulfils one of the following criteria:

Historical interest – has an association with a well-known personality or event, and/or demonstrates the Borough's history.

Architectural interest – portrays a good example of a particular style or period, or is designed by a well-known architect.

Environmental significance – makes a special contribution to the environment of a street or locality.

Aesthetic or artistic merit – this could include a building, mural or shop sign that 'arrests the eye'.

The Local List has not been reviewed since 1991 and at present there are a number of significant 20th-century buildings that are not included.

*To nominate a building, log on to [www.hackneybuildings.org.uk/contribution](http://www.hackneybuildings.org.uk/contribution)*

*The project has been part-funded by English Heritage and Discover Hackney.*

## Entertainment in Hackney Part I

### A History of the Rio Cinema

By Alex Munden

In 1909, Russian émigrée Clara Ludski, who owned an auction room at 105 Kingsland High Street, recognised the potential of moving pictures and commissioned cinema architect W E Trent to convert her shop into a 175-seat 'electric picture house'. It was called the Kingsland Palace and was one of the first full-time cinemas in London. Such was its success that the adjacent premises were acquired to build a proper cinema. In July 1913 Adams & Coles of Hackney submitted plans for a building that more closely resembled a theatre than a cinema. Seating 956 in fair discomfort and allowing another 174 to stand, it opened in 1915 as the Kingsland Empire. In 1920 a pipe organ was installed, followed in 1929 by sound equipment.

Despite successes, the Empire changed hands several times and by the mid-1930s it belonged to London and Southern Super Cinemas, later bought out by the Classic Group. In 1936 London County Council inspected the building and decided it was insufficiently ventilated and that the waiting area was inadequate. In July 1937, F E Bromige of Westminster resolved the problem by retaining the external walls but rebuilding the interior. The auditorium seated just 561 people, with another 110 standing. It opened on 18 December 1937 as the Classic and was advertised as a super-cinema in miniature.

The advent of television in the 1950s led to a decline in audiences. The Dalston Classic became the Classic Cartoon Cinema, the Classic Continental Cinema and then the Classic. It re-launched as the Tattler Cinema Club in May 1970 and in 1971 returned to

showing general release films at weekends, surviving until 1975, when it briefly became the Dalston Classic again before the Classic Group decided to close it down in 1976.

Paul Theodorou approached Classic with a proposal to take over the cinema and it re-opened in April 1976 with a new name – the Rio. Unfortunately, he was unable to make a success of the venture and agreed to sell the sub-lease to a group who wanted to run the building as a community arts centre.

In March 1977, the Rio Cinema Working Party approached the Arts Council, the GLC, the BFI and Hackney Council, for funds to buy the building. The GLC and Hackney agreed to finance the purchase of the sub-lease, and made the Working Party managers of the building in March 1979. The plans for an arts centre were over-ambitious and the Working Party was replaced by a Management Committee, who decided to concentrate on film, video and photography. The Rio became a not for profit company limited by guarantee, and a registered charity. Elected Committee members became directors of the company and trustees of the charity and this management structure continues, although the Management Committee is now the Board of Directors.

By 1995, the Rio was badly in need of refurbishment and applied to the Arts



Council for a Lottery grant. This was approved in 1998 and architects Burrell, Foley, Fischer undertook the redesign, which retained Bromige's original Art Deco vision in the auditorium. Work began in early 1999 and the cinema reopened in August of that year. Improvements included an enlarged foyer, better acoustics and the redesign of the café, as well as new seats, air conditioning and a Dolby Digital™ sound system. During the refurbishment English Heritage expressed concern about the extent of the work but eventually approved the changes and the building was awarded Grade II listed status.

In 2007, thanks to funding from UK Film's digital initiative, the Rio took delivery of a 2K digital projector. This enables the Rio to screen a much wider range of material, including the latest film releases being offered in digital format as well as projects made by local organisations and filmmakers.

The Rio has evolved into an independent cinema that is responsive to sections of the community often ignored by the mainstream. While all other cinemas in Hackney have been demolished or become snooker halls, warehouses or even, in one case, a mosque, the Rio continues to survive.

### Hackney Picturehouse

The Ocean music venue in Mare Street is to become the Hackney Picturehouse. Created from the Methodist Hall and the former Hackney Central Library at a cost of £23 million, Ocean opened in 2001 and closed in 2004. The cinema operator City Screen plans to transform Ocean into a venue with four screens and three licensed cafés, due to open in autumn 2011.

### Arcola Theatre

Dalston's Arcola Theatre has moved from Arcola Street to a new base in the Colourworks building in Ashwin Street. The new premises have a main theatre for 200 people, a 100-seat studio theatre and two spaces for Arcola's youth and community work.



## Clapton Arts Trust and the Clapton Summer Festival

By Julia Lafferty

On 4 October 2010 the Clapton Arts Trust was launched at the Tram Depot on Upper Clapton Road. The Tram Depot, which for over two decades has provided affordable studio and workshop space for local artists and craftspeople, is now threatened with redevelopment, and the Trust has been formed by local residents and Clapton's artistic community, supported by local councillors, to establish a cultural hub for the area. The Trust's main objective is to create studio, exhibition and performance space for artists, craftspeople and those in the performing arts in regenerated heritage buildings where their work and skills can be made accessible to the local community. Jennette Arnold of the GLA and Guy Nicholson, Hackney Council's Cabinet member with responsibility for Regeneration and the Olympics, attended the launch of the Trust to add their support.

This exciting development, driven by local people, aims to bring new life to Clapton and Hackney through the regeneration of the former horse tram depot, the Grade

II listed mission hall at Lea Bridge and the 100-year-old Clapton Cinematograph Theatre on Lower Clapton Road, making them accessible to everyone by the creation of cultural spaces, training and activities for all sections of the community.

In addition, a Clapton Summer Festival is planned to take place during the weekend of 11/12 June this year, with the objective of celebrating Clapton and its diversity, creativity and enterprise. The Festival will be focused around the Lea Bridge Roundabout, Clapton Pond, Lower Clapton Road and Clapton Square. A programme of events is being worked out in consultation with local community representatives and it is planned to include a film festival, live folk music in Clapton Square featuring Cut A Shine, a concert in St John-at-Hackney Church, exhibitions of art and crafts, a Clapton heritage walk and a photographic project with local schoolchildren. Local businesses are being invited to join in the fun, with the emphasis on food and fashion from around the world,



CAT Chair Ian Rathbone with Jennette Arnold and Guy Nicholson at the launch.

involving existing and pop-up venues.

The Festival is being organised with the Clapton Conference as a joint community event through the Clapton Pond Neighbourhood Action Group and the Clapton Square Users Group. The programme of events is still being developed, so if you would like to take part and contribute ideas, email [Claptonfestival@me.com](mailto:Claptonfestival@me.com) or telephone Louise on 07949 247 920.

## The Clowns Church

By Mary Sewell

On the first Sunday in February, clowns from around the world meet at Holy Trinity Church, Beechwood Road, Dalston, for Clowns International's annual Joseph Grimaldi Memorial Service. Clowns International, founded in 1946 as the International Clowns Club, is now the oldest established clowns organisation in the world.

Grimaldi (1778–1837), whose father Giuseppe 'Ironlegs' had been Court Dentist in France, made his first public performances in the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane and Sadler's Wells. He continued to work in these two theatres all his life, running across the fields from one to the other to take curtain calls. His debut was at the age of two, in a monkey skin, swung on the end of a rope. His career could have been short, as one day the rope broke, but fortunately Joe landed in somebody's lap. A clown for 45 years, he retired in 1828 due to ill health.

In his memory, all clowns are called 'Joeys'. His memorial service was originally held in St James's Church, Pentonville Road, where he is buried. You can see his grave in the churchyard, but the church

was deconsecrated after a fire in 1959 and is now offices. Feeling that clowns would make a positive contribution to a depressed area, in stepped Revd Bill Sargent, the vicar of Holy Trinity Church. The warm relationship continues with the present vicar, Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin, who is also vicar of All Saints Haggerston, Chaplain to the Speaker in the House of Commons and to HM Queen Elizabeth II. The clowns are now firmly established, with a Joe Grimaldi memorial window, donated by Gerry Cottle, in the north-west corner of the church, next to a door which leads to a small memorial garden, currently being cultivated, where clowns' ashes may be scattered.

The Clowns Gallery in the church gives a potted history of clowning through photographs, video, costumes and a portion of the famous Egg Collection which depicts the facial make-up of clown club members. The main exhibition, with many more costumes and comedy props previously housed in different temporary venues in Hackney, is now accommodated at Gerry Cottle's Wookey



Hole entertainment centre near Wells in Somerset.

Clowns have their serious side. In the 1960s clowns visited schools to demonstrate road safety and Clowns Gallery Curator, Mattie Faint, Clown of the Year in 1994, visits hospitals as a 'Clown Doctor' to give 'laughter therapy' as part of the Theodora Trust scheme that originated in Switzerland.

Currently, the Clowns Gallery is open, free of charge, on the first Friday in the month, 12.00-17.00. Visits at other times, for which there is a charge, can be arranged through Mattie Faint (020 7608 0312, [mattiefaint@gmail.com](mailto:mattiefaint@gmail.com)).

## Publications

**The Well-Connected Gardener** by Sue Minter is a biography of Alicia Amherst, a Victorian and Edwardian horticulturist who wrote the first history of gardening in England. Her family gained their wealth from the ancient estates of Hackney – hence the road names Amherst Road and Foulden Road, which come from their Norfolk country house. Publisher: Book Guild, £16.99.

**Towards Re-Enchantment: Place and Its Meanings** edited by Di Robson and Gareth Evans features writers and

poets reflecting on the meaning of 're-enchantment', in reference to an actual, particular place or region as they see it. It includes essays by Hackney writers Iain Sinclair (on Springfield Park) and Ken Worpole (on Essex). Publisher: Artevents, £9.99.

**Hackney History, Volume 16** edited by Isobel Watson contains articles on coinage, Pond House, Bishop How, Hoxton Hall and Broadway Market. Publisher: Friends of Hackney Archives, £4.00.

## Noticeboard

### Chatsworth Road Street Market

The Chatsworth Road Traders & Residents Association (CRTRA) held three trial market days at the end of 2010 with 25 traders taking part. Visitors to the trial markets completed almost 200 questionnaires. Most wanted to see the market take place weekly or fortnightly with the preferred day being Sunday. On 19 January, some 140 traders and residents met at Chats Palace to discuss the trial. There was overwhelming support for the market to go ahead. At the meeting, Euan Mills presented a neighbourhood plan for Chatsworth Road and its surrounding area (see p02).

### Farm:shop

Farm:shop is a new venture in Dalston Lane. Eco-designers Something & Son have transformed a derelict shop into an urban food hub, café and arts venue. Fresh produce that is grown throughout the building is served in the café. The shop includes mini 'aquaponic' fish farms and has a chicken coop on the roof.

### RoWCA award

RoWCA (Rosemary Works Residents Community Association) has been highly commended for its canal-side planting project by Hackney in Bloom 2010.

## Hackney Society News

**Lisa Rigg**, who has worked on a number of projects for the Hackney Society since 2007, has a new part-time job. She has been employed by Lambeth Council to develop an education and access programme for inner London's only surviving windmill.

She will continue to carry out a number of projects for the Society, including Love Local Landmarks, and an audio walk for Hackney Wick and Marsh. The Hackney Society would like to thank her for her excellent work, especially on the projects *From Fever to Consumption: the Story of Healthcare in Hackney*, the Planning Sub-group and the book *Hackney-Modern, Restored, Forgotten, Ignored*.

## Volunteering opportunities

The Hackney Society is looking for five young volunteers (aged 16-25 years) and three older people with a flair for photography. In March/April 2011 the Society would like to start photographing a selection of Hackney's most important locally listed buildings (see Love Local Landmarks p03).

It will be a unique opportunity for young people, who demonstrate a passion for photography, to work with the internationally acclaimed architectural photographer, Grant Smith. Grant is a Hackney resident, whose body of work includes some of the world's most iconic structures: the Pont de Normandie, the second Severn Crossing, the Sydney Harbour tunnel, the Millennium Dome and the Gherkin in London.

We are also looking for volunteers to help to add the results of our locally listed building survey to a new online catalogue. Training will be provided.

*If you are interested in either of these roles, please contact [lisa@hackneysociety.org](mailto:lisa@hackneysociety.org) or telephone 020 8806 4003.*



## 2010 Hackney Design Awards

Run by Hackney Council every two years, the Hackney Design Awards promote and celebrate high quality design within the built environment. In 2010, 55 nominations were received and 20 schemes were shortlisted. There are six winners and five commendations.

The winning schemes are the Barn and Eco Garden at the Eastern Curve (see front page), 22-24 Bateman's Row, Bridge Academy, City Academy, Clapton Girls' Technology College and Stoke Newington Town Hall. Commendations went to 30 Crown Place, Hoxton Overground Station, Mare Street Road Improvements, 39 Parkholme Road and Well Street Surgery.

A new People's Choice Award voted for by Hackney residents was won by Clapton Girl's Technology College, which received 215 of the 865 votes cast.

The Judging Panel was made up of professionals in architecture, urban design, development and regeneration. Among them was Lisa Rigg of the Hackney Society.

### 22-24 Bateman's Row



Bateman's Row is a contemporary six-storey building that maximises accommodation for both commercial and residential units and makes the most of a confined site in Shoreditch. Designed by and for Theis and Khan Architects, the building provides an art gallery on the ground floor and in the basement, first floor offices for the architects, several residential units and a family home at the top. Planted roof terraces look out over the city. The scheme maximises space and light by climbing vertically in distinct phases over five floors. An internally exposed concrete structure acts as a thermal store, combined with a highly insulated envelope and natural ventilation. Solar panels supplement hot water provision.

The Judging Panel commented: 'The building sits comfortably within its industrial

surrounds and makes direct reference to the nearby buildings.' They considered the scheme to be: 'exceptional – the density, excellent composition, the quality of design and its finish'.

### Bridge Academy

Designed by BDP Architects and sponsored by UBS Investments Bank, the Bridge Academy is situated on a brownfield site along the Regents Canal. By building upwards and creating a 'vertical' school, external space has been maximised. The school buildings are split into three elements: the 'sound shell' wraps teaching spaces around the social heart of the school; the sports hall is set underground; and the music box provides teaching space which transforms into a 450-seater auditorium.

Judges described the school as 'a thrilling building, enticing and crucially - very grown up'. They added, 'It's thick with references, like walking into a vast modernist library or the foyer of a concert hall in Berlin.'

*For more on the Bridge Academy, see Spaces 22.*

### City Academy

City Academy, designed by Studio E Architects and sponsored by City of London Corporation and KPMG, is an educational facility with an integrated sustainable strategy. It has achieved an A rated energy performance certificate. Internally the school's transparent classroom walls are designed to maximise daylight. The judges noted that these 'walls open up classrooms to corridors and students can be seen and feel safely supervised wherever they are'. Multi-coloured cladding provides an effective acoustic screen and has openings for ventilation.

*For more on the City Academy, see Spaces 25/27.*

### Clapton Girls' Technology College

The redevelopment of Clapton Girls' Technology College involved refurbishing the majority of the existing buildings to modern-day standards and creating two cutting-edge new buildings to provide new facilities. Funded by the Building Schools for the Future programme, the work was carried out by the architects Jestico + Whiles. The judging panel praised the college for creating a 'teaching environment of immense quality', and said, 'Here

the architects have not been distracted by current design fads but have simply added to the original school in a quiet and understated manner. The result is outstanding.'

The existing campus buildings on site are between 35 and 100 years old; two are listed, one locally and one statutorily. New build elements – which include the provision of a sixth form centre, assembly hall and dining hall – aim to respect and draw inspiration from the historic architecture, while interpreting the existing buildings in a contemporary way.

### Stoke Newington Town Hall



Hackney Society members will be familiar with Stoke Newington Town Hall and Assembly Hall, where we held our 2010 AGM. This Grade II listed public building, designed by J Reginald Truelove, has had major areas restored and refurbished by the architects Hawkins\Brown. Originally separated by an alleyway, a new reception was created to unite the municipal offices and assembly hall, thereby providing a defined entrance. The removal of parking and the installation of extensive new landscaping and lighting enable open and safe accessibility into the complex and reconnection to the street.

Stoke Newington Town Hall was built in the 1930s to a high quality that reflected the civic pride of the time. The judges considered it to have been restored with 'sensitivity and panache', and commented: 'Many original features are brought back to life, including the Australian walnut timber panelling, beautiful plaster-domed ceilings, ornamental gold cornicing, bronze balustrades, and the sprung Canadian maple dance floor in the Assembly Hall, from which also hangs a spectacular mirror ball.' They were particularly impressed by the redesigned external space.

# Hackney Society Events\*

## Mythical Watercourses and Real Rivers

Saturday 19 March 2011, 11am

### Walk with Lisa Rigg

An easy half-day hike from the north of the borough to the south. Learn about the watermen, rowers, industries and wildlife of the riverside as we walk through Clissold Park, Springfield Park, Hackney Marshes and Victoria Park. We will walk beside the New River, Hackney Brook, the River Lea, the Lee Navigation Canal and Regent's Canal. The route will follow part of Walk London's 13-mile Lea Valley Walk. Bring a picnic lunch.

Meet Manor House Underground Station  
FREE to all

## A Journey through Dalston

Saturday 16 April 2011, 2pm

### Walk with Susan Doe

The trendiest place in the universe? Dalston is so much more than the spread of Shoreditch 'cool' and the origins of a popular BBC soap opera. This walk will highlight the history of Dalston (since Roman times) and how it is changing rapidly before our eyes. The new overground line, Tony Blair, Oswald Mosley, clowns and Marie Lloyd will all feature on this journey through Dalston.

Meet Dalston Junction Overground  
FREE to all

## Bateman's Row

Thursday 12 May 2011, 7pm

### Tour

Designed by and for Theis and Khan, Bateman's Row maximises accommodation for both commercial and residential units at a tight site in Shoreditch. It provides several lettable units, making the scheme viable, and includes an architects' office and family home. The building has received the following awards: RIBA London Award 2010, RIBA London Building of the Year Award 2010 and Hackney Design Award 2010. Bateman's Row was shortlisted for the RIBA Stirling Prize 2010.

Meet at 22 Bateman's Row, London E2  
FREE to members, £5.00 to non-members

## Highlights of Haggerston

Sunday 15 May 2011, 2.30pm

### Walk with John Finn

Architectural and historical walk through Haggerston, taking in Ernö Goldfinger's Haggerston School and Haggerston Baths by Alfred Cross as well as recent buildings like Adelaide Wharf and the Bridge Academy.

Meet outside the entrance to the Geffrye Museum, 136 Kingsland Road, E2  
FREE to all

## Dalston Churches

Saturday 21 May 2011, 2pm

### Walk with Fabian Watkinson, The Victorian Society

An afternoon walk focusing on four Dalston churches. The 'huge Teulonesque central tower' of Ewan Christian's Holy Trinity (1879) 'broods over the sanctuary' whilst the enormous St Mark's (1866) by Chester Cheston Junior has been described as the 'wildest piece of Rogue Gothic ever conceived'. Charles Reilly said of his St Barnabas (1910), which echoes the sublime spaces of Westminster Cathedral, that it was 'the building I should like to be remembered by' whilst St Matthias (1853) is one of William Butterfield's most powerful and original compositions.

Meet outside Dalston Kingsland Station (London Overground North London Line)  
FREE to members, £5.00 non-members

## A Radical Ramble

Saturday 18 June 2011, 11am

### Walk with Hannah Parham

Hackney is known nationally for being confrontational, non-conformist, radical, political and culturally diverse. This walk will start at the heart of dissension in Stoke Newington and wind its way to Shoreditch via the anti-fascist protests in Clissold Park, riots in Ridley Road, communists visiting De Beauvoir and Christian reformers in Hoxton. The walk will include visits to the old town halls of Stoke Newington and Shoreditch. Bring a picnic lunch.

Meet outside Stoke Newington Town Hall  
FREE to all

## From Rags-to-Riches

Saturday 16 July 2011, 11am

### Walk with Lisa Rigg and Dr Ann Robey

A long walk from the busy heart of the City of London to the calm of Hackney Marshes. Following a route through Shoreditch, Haggerston, Victoria Park, Homerton, Lower Clapton to Millfields, ending at the Lea Valley nature reserve. Discover many aspects of Hackney including silk weavers, workhouses, asylums, and see how the borough grew up from the City. Bring a picnic lunch.

Meet outside Liverpool Street Station, Bishopsgate  
FREE to all

# The Planning Sub-group

We have been established for a year and a half and are always interested in hearing from possible new volunteers. The aim of the group is to comment on large-scale planning applications, built environment and heritage policy documents, local consultations and planning applications associated with listed buildings outside of conservation areas, within the Borough of Hackney.

*If you can spare one evening a month and have a keen interest in the local built environment, we would be interested in having you as a member.*

*If you would like to find out more, or put yourself forward, please email us at [planning@hackneysociety.org](mailto:planning@hackneysociety.org)*

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Kopykat based in Shoreditch specialises in company stationery and high quality marketing material, we cover onsite litho printing, digital printing, copying and direct mail, environmentally we have recently been awarded Green Mark accreditation and we print using vegetable based inks, without the use of alcohol and deliver in an LPG vehicle.



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\* Please check our website for up-to-date information and additional events that are organised throughout the year. Most of our events are free to Hackney Society members and £5 to non-members. For special and joint events there may be a charge for members. To avoid disappointment please book a place as some events have a limited number of places. To book email [events@hackneysociety.org](mailto:events@hackneysociety.org) or phone 07771 225183.