

THE FRIENDS OF ISLEWORTH PUBLIC HALL

Registered Charity Number: 1102928

News Bulletin No. 22 April 2010



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 20 May 2010

First and foremost – the Annual General Meeting. Please attend because everyone needs Friends, especially us! Apart from the business part of the evening it is a social event so come along, have a drink and a chat and enjoy an illustrated talk “A to Z of Isleworth” by Christine Diwell, Hounslow Heritage Guide.

The very generous donation by Mrs Hackman of three stunning works by the late David Hackman are now framed and in-situ in the Vestry Room. Our thanks to Mrs Hackman for her kindness and to Peter Downes for supplying the description plaques.



REDECORATION WORKS

Done and dusted! A job well-done. What a vast difference to the sad state it was in when the Steering Group (which evolved into The Friends) first stepped in. Our thanks to Fusion and London Borough of Hounslow and, of course, to the crew of painters who worked long and hard at what must have seemed a daunting task.



CURTAINS

New curtains for the Main Hall? Are you dreaming? No, not a dream – a reality! They are in place and look wonderful. Our thanks to Councillors for making this possible through allocation of £7,000 Section 106 money. Special thanks to Councillor Paul Fisher for his much appreciated help in this matter.

SHINE A LIGHT

Further good news to report. In addition to the S.106 money for curtains we have obtained £4,000 to replace the fluorescent lights in the main hall. Quotations currently being collected and we hope new lights will be installed soon. Our thanks again to Councillors, especially Councillor Paul Fisher.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 8th May the Hounslow Heritage Guides are holding a free event “Uncovering Hounslow Borough’s Rich History” which will include an exhibition, illustrated talks and a guided tour of Isleworth.

4th/5th/6th August Stop Gap Theatre return with a thriller “Rehearsal for Murder”.

18th/19th September. To coincide with Open House weekend, The Isleworth Society is to hold “A Celebration of Isleworth” event. The Friends will participate by serving refreshments and displaying Isleworth Public Hall archive material.

13th/14th/15th October. Isleworth Baroque will perform “The Beggars Opera” by John Gay.

Saturday 27th November. The Friends plan to hold a Table Top Sale as a fund-raiser. If you would like to book a table please phone Kate on 8560 7414.



THE THURSDAY CLUB

This continues to be a great success. The entrance fee was raised from £2 to £3 in January to enable a continued varied programme of events to be provided (programme enclosed). The club is held on the second Thursday of each month and the entrance fee includes refreshments and a free raffle. Everyone welcome – come join us!

The annual outing will take place on 6 May - a coach trip to Alton with a ride on a steam train, including a cream tea. Our thanks to the Isleworth and Brentford Area Committee for granting us £500 towards this trip which has enabled us to subsidise the cost to participants. **TICKETS SOLD OUT.**



We had a panic in December when the Teddington Theatre Group, booked months in advance, phoned our secretary the evening before the Christmas event, advising they were unable to undertake the booking. An evening of frantic phone calls, fainting fits and minor hysterics ensued and a replacement was finally found in the form of Harry James who came up trumps and entertained us grandly.

P.T.O.



THEATRE REVIEWS

Stop Gap presented a production of Neil Simon's "California Suite" in February. On the plus side the hall had been redecorated – on the minus side there were no curtains in place. However, being the troopers they are Stop Gap managed to get around the problem and put on a very enjoyable production.



Hanging Baskets

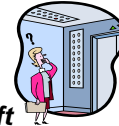
Our thanks to the Rugby Football Union for their annual donation of £500. We have renegotiated the contract with the company that supply and maintain the baskets and Fusion are sharing the cost with us. Our share of the cost made possible thanks to the Rugby Football Union.

Isleworth Charity (Vestry Hall, Reading and Lecture Rooms) Charity No.1075734

Isleworth Public Hall was built with public subscription by the people of Isleworth for the people of Isleworth and is held in trust by the London Borough of Hounslow. A stipulation of retaining charitable status is submitting accounts annually to the Charities Commission. However, the LB of Hounslow has failed to submit accounts for the past six years. Committee members, who also sit on the Isleworth Public Hall Executive, have been pursuing this matter with LBH for at least two years and LBH advise they are collating the backlog for submission to the Charities Commission. A cause for concern is that, at a

recent meeting with a senior officer at LBH, it was suggested the charity serves no useful purpose and should be allowed to expire. We dispute this as we consider it ensures the future safety of the building from possible sale or demolition and we will continue to lobby on this.

Please note the charity referred to above is completely separate from The Friends of Isleworth Public Hall charity (No. 1102928) for which returns are submitted annually to the Charities Commission.



Non-functioning lift

You will probably have noticed that the lift is not working, again! We apologise to those members who need to use this facility. Advice received is that that the cost to repair is so great that replacement is more economical. The news is positive and we hope a new lift will be installed. Fingers crossed!

MISCELLANEOUS

Police Surgeries continue at IPH – dates on noticeboard.

The exterior notice-board gives information of the activities and events held at the hall.

AND LAST BUT BY NO MEANS LEAST
A CLARION CALL TO EVERYONE

****WE NEED NEW MEMBERS****

WITHOUT NEW MEMBERS WE WILL NOT SURVIVE. SPEAK TO YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO JOIN. (Membership Application Form enclosed)

ISLEWORTH PUBLIC HALL IS A COMMUNITY VENUE AND WE NEED THE SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY TO ENSURE ITS FUTURE