



Myddelton Square Association

Newsletter

December 2021

The Myddelton Square Association (MSA) is a Residents Association for residents and property owners in Myddelton Square, EC1. For more information or to join, please e-mail hello@myddeltonsquare.co.uk or visit our website at <http://www.myddeltonsquare.co.uk>

AGM and news

The 42nd AGM of the Myddelton Square Association will take place on:

Thursday 24th February 2022 at 7:30pm (drinks from 7pm)

The meeting will be held in the church hall of St. Mark's Church in the square (in-person, regulations permitting), with an opportunity to meet neighbours over some drinks/nibbles before and after the meeting. An agenda will be circulated by e-mail and available on the website before the meeting.

Thanks to all MSA members that came to our Summer Garden Party in August last summer.

We had a lovely afternoon, and enjoyed some fantastic food (most of it prepared by our neighbours).

Although the rain forced us to retreat indoors this year, we were very grateful to be able to use the church facilities for a few hours.



Myddelton Square Gardening Group (MSGG)

Elaine Smith is delighted to report that it has been an exceptionally good year for the MSGG, for awards, funding and new members.

The many Open Days and all the hard work throughout the year have resulted in the MSGG being awarded the 'Silver Gilt Award' from London in Bloom and 'Level 4 Award' from RHS 'Thriving'.

The awards are wonderful to receive, but for the whole group, what matters most is the thanks and appreciation from all who see us working in the gardens.

The funding we have received has been from various sources, the most substantial being from Islington Council (Section 106 funding) of £22,000. This is to be spent on more permanent protective fencing for the flower beds (to be installed next year), as well as planting, compost and mulch.



Matt Nathan our Clerkenwell Ward Councillor and the person responsible for allocating the funds, thought that our work and commitment to restoring the Gardens was well worth supporting. The 'before' photos of the neglected flower beds and how they are being transformed was a deciding factor.



The planting plans submitted to The Metropolitan Public Gardens Association has resulted in a donation of £386.49.

The film production company filming for Netflix donated £833.

Myddelton Square Association donated £540.

MSGG has also received individual donations over the year.

It is good to end the year knowing that we have sufficient funding to continue the project to restore the Gardens. We are all looking forward to continuing the work next year.

House of Illustration

The House of Illustration (<https://www.houseofillustration.org.uk/>) has acquired the land and historic buildings on the Thames Water site behind Myddelton Square and Amwell Street, and is transforming it into the Quentin Blake Centre for Illustration – housing exhibitions, artist and educational spaces and a café. The project is currently raising funds and awaiting planning permission.

If you would like to visit the New River Head site and hear more about plans for the Centre then please email Harry Hickmore to arrange a time to visit (harry.hickmore@houseofillustration.org.uk).

MSA members were lucky enough to receive a tour of the site back in September, kindly given by the House of Illustration team.

The site will be featured in a documentary “Quentin Blake – The Drawing of My Life”, to be broadcast on BBC2 at 16:10 on Christmas Day.

Filming (Friday 4th / Sat 5th February 2022)

The TV production “Lockwood & Co”, which has filmed twice at Claremont Square this year would like to return for it's final shoot of Season 1. It is a supernatural adventure based on a best-selling series of novels by Jonathan Stroud to be broadcast on Netflix. Myddelton Square will once again be used by the production team for support facilities.

They plan to return on Friday 4th / Saturday 5th February 2022. Residents may see film crews or experience parking suspension or minor disruption. More information is available on our website.

Christmas recycling/parking

Look out for changes in rubbish/recycling collection over the Christmas period. Christmas trees can be recycled by putting them outside on our normal rubbish collection days (Tuesday 4th/11th January).

Watch out for the December newsletter from Islington Council, which normally contains free visitor parking vouchers to use between Christmas and New Year.

St. Mark's Church

St Mark's Church, Clerkenwell, continues to provide opportunities for worship at the 9:30am service of Eucharist on Sundays when the bells will call you, and also a 6:30pm service on Wednesday evenings. On the first Sunday of the month Evensong is held with a musical meditation instead of a sermon.

In an effort to be a useful community asset, the church space can be rented, currently at £40 p/h, for meetings or events such as concerts, club groups (e.g. Rainbows/Brownies/Guides), classes and demonstrations, sales or fairs.

The World-Wide Centre for Christian Meditation has an office in the building and holds sessions every weekday from 1:00pm to 1:30pm. There are some rentable spaces in the Crypt (currently all occupied) which artists/creative people can rent at affordable prices.

We also hold a 'New-to-You Shop' every Saturday along with a café. This is an opportunity to meet neighbours for a chat, or pick up a bargain from the wide variety of items on offer. We try to keep the church doors open to provide a peaceful space to sit, or a chance for conversation.

Most important are the dates and times of the Christmas Services. Sadly, our Advent Carol Service has already occurred. But still to come is the Childrens' Crib Service at 9:30am on Sunday 19th December, with opportunities for 'dressing up' and special refreshments at the end.

You don't have to be a regular church member to join in – Grandparents, why don't you bring your grandchildren to see our lovely Crib? Of course, we have a Eucharist on Christmas Day at 9:30am and there is also the Church's Dedication Day, when Choral Evensong is held at 7:00pm.

Happy Christmas

MSA wishes all our members and neighbours a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

