

October 2019

www.myddeltonsquare.co.uk

Welcome to "Square Roots", the newsletter from the Myddelton Square Association ("MSA").

Dates for the Diary:

1. **Autumn Sale** - Saturday 19 October, 11am - 5pm, St Mark's Church; many stalls with books, clothes, CDs/DVDs, china, glass, and household items.
2. **Gardening Days** - Oct 20 & 27, 1-4pm; 10 Nov, from 12.30pm
3. **Advent Carol Service** - St Mark's Church, Sunday 1 December at 7.00pm
4. **MSA AGM** - to be held on 30th January.

Annual Summer Garden Party

A sunny afternoon lunch was enjoyed by many residents in the Square on 15 September and it was good to meet new neighbours. Our next social event will take place on the evening of Thursday 30th January at the AGM to which all residents are welcome.



St Mark's Church News

The recent coffee morning, organised by Jill Courtnell, successfully raised £270 for the MacMillan Cancer Charity.

The Harvest Festival, 13th October, led by the children of the Sunday School and 4th Clerkenwell Guide Group, the Church was decorated for the occasion.



Lighting upgrade: work is underway in the Church from 21 October to 13 December to improve the lighting. During this time, the worship space will be closed Monday - Friday and there will be normal access for the "New to You" shop on Saturdays and for services on Sunday. Fundraising for this project is on-going and there is an opportunity to purchase named luminaires in memory of loved ones. For more information contact Shirley Duggan in the Church.

In Memoriam Patsy Wright: 21st January 2019. The first meeting for the formation of MSLA was held in Patsy's flat at no. 28/29 in 1979 and she was the first treasurer. After retiring, Patsy studied at Morley College. An accomplished artist, one of her etchings 'Rush Hour in Myddelton Square' was exhibited in the RA Summer Show. She was an indomitable lady with a talent for both art and friendship. Her 100th birthday would have been in February 2019.

Sheila Gaeton 21st December 2018. Sheila and Michael came to the Square as newly weds in 1962. She was 86 when she died and her funeral took place in Covent Garden where the family attended church. A friend to many residents, Sheila was always pleased to come to our annual summer lunch in the Gardens.

Harry Potts 27th August 2019. Harry was 89 when he died. He and Monica came to the Square in 1984. His career was in Education and in retirement he used his skills in woodworking to make many beautiful musical instruments. He was active in the fight to preserve the Gardens from unwelcome developments by the freeholder. Harry edited the MSQGG Bulletins and Square Roots and will be remembered by some as an enthusiastic BBQ chef at our lunches.

Myddelton Square Gardening Group News from Elaine Smith

Over 600 bulbs were planted by MSGG during Open Gardening Days last Autumn resulting in a spectacular display of bulbs followed by alliums this spring. Continuing the project to restore the Gardens, the overgrown and neglected bed on the south side was dug over and planted last October and November. From January onwards and throughout the spring, summer and autumn the bed has provided continuous colour and a magnet for bees and butterflies.



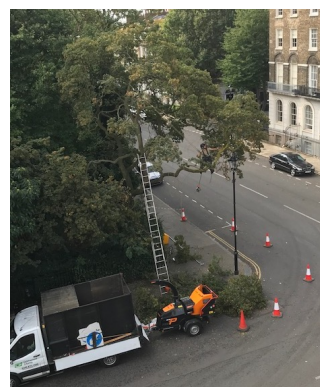
The type of fencing used in the Royal Parks is considered to be the most attractive to protect the two beds and has been suggested to the Council. There are still some points to be discussed but hopefully the fencing can be fitted this year.

Thanks to the MSGG for all the hard work that is transforming the Gardens. Through Open Gardening Days, and frequent watering throughout the summer,

plants, particularly in the centre bed under the oak, have been saved. Digging out thistles and working in mud and rain are all part of the job! Thanks also to all the new people who have joined and to Annette Pollock, the Landscape Architect who kindly provides her professional plans and advice.



There are 3 Open Gardening Days coming up on Sunday 20 and 27 October (1-4pm) and Sunday 10 November (from 12.30pm). Everyone is welcome to come and join us. We always have an enjoyable time regardless of the weather.



Trees: Islington Council, at our request, has pruned back some of the trees within the Square, although we continue to be in discussions with the Council to carry out further work. We have been informed that in future the Council's policy will be to carry out

work on trees in their parks and gardens on a three year cycle. This will replace the pruning and maintenance on an ad hoc basis and will ensure each garden or park is surveyed and necessary work carried out every three years. This will fit better with the Council's budgeting constraints.



MSA Committee

Chair: Monica Potts
 Treasurer: Graham Pickering
 Membership: Pauline Ward
 Gardening: Elaine Smith
 Members:
 Shirley Duggan, Jill Courtneil, Mindy Jhittay, Dave Plume, Patricia Braun, Judith Ravenscroft, Helen Bird, Simon Cheek

Committee News

Monica Potts, who has chaired the MSA for many years, is seeking to hand over the role during the forthcoming year. The MSA is therefore seeking to appoint a new Chair. If any member would like to stand for the position, or find out more, please contact a member of the Committee. Also, if you are interested in getting involved with the Committee please let Pauline Ward, Membership Coordinator, know (paulinemsa@aol.com) as there are currently opportunities to join or assist the Committee.

MSA Membership

If you have not renewed your subscription for the current year please contact Graham Pickering, our Treasurer. New members who are resident or own property in Myddelton Square are always welcome. Our subscription is only £5 per annum. Further information about the MSA is available on the website or from Pauline Ward at paulinemsa@aol.com.

Web Site

We will be updating the web site in the near future. In the meantime, relevant information, including details of the committee members, can still be found here: www.myddeltonsquare.co.uk.

Next Edition of Square Roots

If you have any news items for circulation or inclusion in the next Square Roots please forward details by email to paulinemsa@aol.com.



Sunrise in Myddelton Square