



## Issue No. 37 Winter 2017

**T**his edition is sure to serve up plenty of nostalgia for many of our members, and possibly set their feet tapping. We have a fascinating article citing many great names from the popular music scene of the sixties and seventies and linking them to the venues within the Borough. Sadly many have vanished or now fulfil a different function, including private residences, estate agents and coffee shops. An insight into possible reasons for the latter are set out in the piece about yet another possible loss, the pub formerly known as the 'The Greyhound'.

Another cameo in the Lost Theatres series, also reminds us of the cultural venues that once graced our Borough.

An amusing footnote to the collectors' corner will bring a smile to fans of Ivor Novello.

In all a very musical edition.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our Annual general meeting on 14 November. This is to be held at yet another lost entertainment venue, The Dorsett Hotel on Shepherd's Bush Green, formerly the grade II listed Pavilion Cinema.

*Nicolas Fernley, Chairman*

*The Three Kings, 171 North End Road W14, 1902, where the Nashville Rooms formerly provided a popular music venue.*



## ROCK'N'ROLL IN SHEPHERD'S BUSH

**R**oger Daltrey was born in Hammersmith in 1944. **Pete Townshend**, whose dad went to Latymer School, was born in Chiswick in 1945. Having been formed whilst at Acton Grammar School, **The Who** became a central part of the Shepherd's Bush mod scene in the early 60s.



Today the Shepherd's Bush Club at 205 Goldhawk Road bears a blue plaque commemorating their time there.

Living in Benbow Road, right behind The Shepherd's Bush Club, was a young hoodlum called **Steve Jones**, who, with his schoolmate from Christopher Wren school, **Paul Cook**, would form **The Sex Pistols** in 1976. An early gig at The Nashville Rooms (now The Famous Three Kings pub, pictured on cover), was watched by **Joe Strummer** who was inspired to form his own punk band, **The Clash**. **Mick Jones** of The Clash was at the time a student at the Art School on Lime Grove.

**Elvis Costello's** dad, **Ross MacManus**, was a featured vocalist in the **Joe Loss Orchestra** who had a residency at the Hammersmith Palais. In his autobiography, Elvis recalls watching his dad sing the hits of the day from the balcony of the Hammersmith Palais. One of Elvis's earliest gigs was in a band called **Flip City** at The Red Cow on Hammersmith Road (now re-built as Latymers).



Red Cow Public-House Hammersmith Road, 1897.

Many other bands played at the Red Cow around this time including **The Police** and **AC/DC**. **The 101ers** listed in the photo was a band fronted by Joe Strummer.

In 1970, **Roger Taylor**, **Brian May** and **Freddie Mercury** formed **Queen** at Roger's flat near Shepherd's Bush Green.

And all this talent fed into the BBC. Musical shows devised by the BBC at Lime Grove Studios include *Juke Box Jury* (1959) and *Top of the Pops* (1964, having moved from

Manchester). **The Beatles** made their TV debut at Lime Grove on 13 April 1963. **Jimi Hendrix** recorded for *Dee Time* on 22 August 1969. You may have seen the film of a very young **Jimmy Page** demonstrating his talents at playing skiffle on the guitar before telling interviewer Huw Weldon he hoped to go in to biological research (he went on to found **Led Zeppelin**); this was filmed at Lime Grove. The last ever programme transmitted from Lime Grove in June 1991 was *The Late Show* presented by Cliff Michelmore. This programme lives on in the form of *Later with Jools Holland*.

Many music shows were re-recorded or re-edited for overseas consumption at the BBC's Transcription Service building in Kensington House, Richmond Way W14, now the K-West hotel.

Townhouse Studios on Goldhawk Road has recently been converted into flats and houses. In 1979 **The Jam** recorded their first top ten hit *Eton Rifles* there. **Phil Collins** created one of the most recognised drum solos of all time when he recorded *In The Air Tonight* there in 1980. In 1997 **Elton John** recorded the Diana tribute *Candle in the Wind* with producer George Martin in this building, which closed as a recording studio in 2008.

Adrian Bray. You can follow his Tweets on pop culture, 'Shepherd's Bush Calling' @sbccalling.







## LOST THEATRE: GRAND FULHAM

**H**ammersmith and Fulham once had six theatres: the Shepherd's Bush Empire, featured in Newsletter 33, the Granville, featured in Newsletter 34, the Palace of Varieties, featured in Newsletter 35, the King's featured in Newsletter 36, the original Hammersmith Lyric, and the Fulham Grand.



*Grand Theatre Fulham, 1897. Nick Charlesworth has kindly supplied this drawing of the theatre in July 1928, then known as the Shilling Theatre. His book 'Variety at Night is Good for You' features 92 theatres still standing in the 1930 and 1940s including 4 featured in previous newsletters.*

The Grand, on Putney Bridge Approach, was originally called the Fulham Theatre. Like the King's Theatre in Hammersmith, it was designed by the prolific theatre architect W G R Sprague, and, like the King's, was one of the first theatres to have cantilevered balconies, so that no columns interrupted views of the stage. It had an audience capacity of just over 2,000.

The original Louis XIV style interior was in shades of cream and light terracotta with much gilding, complemented by crimson velvet. The West London Observer reported in 1896 that *'nothing will be spared to*

*render the theatre one of the most perfect in the kingdom'.*

It opened on 23 August 1897 with *'The Geisha - by special arrangement with Mr George Edwards'*, said the West London Observer. In 1899 Ellen Terry appeared as Portia in *The Merchant of Venice* and other great stars of the time appeared there, including Henry Irving and Sarah Bernhardt. In 1902 Sir Thomas Beecham conducted an opera there, aged 22 and on his debut tour. Beecham later remarked that *'the orchestra players were dedicated drinkers who always had a bar's rest before the performance'*.

The National Sunday League Journal reported on a showing of very early film: on 6<sup>th</sup> March 1904, the theatre presented *'Animated Photographs'* of *'Port Arthur'* and *'The Fleet'*. From 1912 it was often used as a cinema and called the Shilling Theatre. By 1937 it was renamed the Grand Theatre with live performances, but on Sundays it still showed films. It closed in 1950, remaining empty until it was demolished in 1958. Riverbank House, an office block, now stands on the site.

*Angela Dixon*

## POSTCARDS FROM THE PAST



*An early 20<sup>th</sup> century postcard of The Queen's Head, built c1890, extended 1898, viewed from Brook Green.*

**K**nown as the 'Maidenhead' in 1722 then the 'Maiden Queens Head' in 1775, both names were used up to about 1800 when it was renamed The Queen's Head. This photographic postcard was published in the early 1900s. The building dates from the late 18th or early 19th century.

*Keith Whitehouse*



## HERITAGE AT RISK THE GREYHOUND A LOCAL PUB

In 2001 Hammersmith and Fulham had just over 150 pubs. By 2016 there were just over 100. 1,220 London pubs have been lost in this time. The pub is under threat – from property developers and from the cheapness of supermarket drink. But a pub is not just about alcohol; it can be a community hub, a support network for those who might not otherwise have one, and as a place to hear live music at reasonable cost, often with a friendlier atmosphere than larger venues. Some pubs are architectural gems, with different historical styles ranging from pre-19th century vernacular to Victorian gin palace to 1930s roadhouse. The pubs that will survive are those that recognise demographic and cultural shift – eg the rise in 'mindful drinking' whereby an increasing number of people drink little or no alcohol but still want a place to meet their friends and have a night out. In our area there is a tendency to go upmarket towards the 'gastropub'. However this is not always a recipe for success – the Salisbury in Sherbrooke Road, for example, did this and is now a supermarket.

CAMRA (The Campaign for Real Ale)'s West London branch (<https://westlondon.camra.org.uk/>) identifies 19 pubs in the borough as being at risk. These include the Southern Belle at 175-177 Fulham Palace Road which is for sale. The latter has a long and illustrious history. Various the Cosmic Comedy Club, the Astro Bar and the Puzzle, it was originally and best known as the Greyhound. Extant by 1878 to replace an earlier pub on Greyhound Road, it was renowned in the 1970s as a music pub seeing acts such as Bob Marley, Thin Lizzy, the Specials, Nazareth, and many more. The pub venue aspect has gone the way of the Nashville Rooms (now Three Kings), Red Cow (now Latymers) and Clarendon (demolished when the Broadway was rebuilt in the 1990s). Now closed, despite having apparently had a thriving client base, this pub exemplifies the trend that, if it is more profitable to sell, owners will do so. Pubs can be listed as an Asset of Community Value, a move which could apply here, as the immediate area has little more than the Greyhound and the similarly under threat Old Suffolk Punch, formerly the Golden Gloves.

*Chris Amies*

*Author of Images of London: Hammersmith & Fulham  
Pubs, published by History Press*



*The Greyhound pub when known as The Puzzle.*

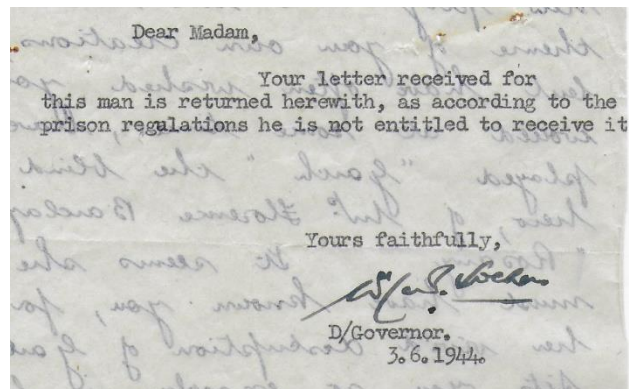
## COLLECTORS' CORNER IVOR NOVELLO (1893 -1951)

Born David Ivor Davis in Cardiff he became famous in 1914 with his hit song 'Keep the Home Fires Burning'. After WWI he wrote the scores of many shows and in the 1920s he turned to acting in British films and then the stage. He appeared in two silent films directed by Alfred Hitchcock. Novello became the most popular male star in British films. Off to Hollywood for a short while he returned home to appear in his own lavish West End productions including 'Glamorous Nights' (1935) and 'The Dancing Years' (1939). But he had his biggest late successes with stage musicals like 'King's Rhapsody' (1949).

During WWII he misused petrol coupons that a fan had stolen and served four weeks in Wormwood Scrubs Prison. This had a severe effect on him.

On his death in 1951 he left an estate in today's value of £5.3 million.

In 1955, The Ivor Novello Awards for Song Writing were instituted.



This letter, illustrated, was sent to him by a fan but returned with a note by the prison Deputy-Governor saying, 'according to prison regulations he is not entitled to receive it'.

*Keith Whitehouse*





## WAR MEMORIALS

In the last issue I reported the listing of the Blake's War Memorial in Margravine (Hammersmith) Cemetery (pictured) by DCMS. This has been followed up by the listing of the Lyons War Memorial, at least the First World War Obelisk, on 3 July 2017. This structure has been moved at least once and it was formerly at the Lyons factory at Greenford (opened in 1921). It was re-erected in this cemetery in 2012, with some new panels of granite replacing the Portland stone panels of the Second World War memorial, which are not included in the listing.



*Lyons War Memorial*

This means that within a year the number of listed buildings in Margravine Cemetery has gone from 3 to 6. The Friends of Margravine Cemetery are working with the Council to put together a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a grant to repair these structures and further

improve the cemetery.

The Council are looking to submit more of the Borough's war memorials for listing and the next to submit to

Historic

*War memorial at Royal Mail Sorting Office, Vencourt Place*



England for listing are the three wall mounted war memorials in Vicarage Gardens. One of the bronze panels has already been stolen and listing might prompt consideration of its replacement.

However, there is concern that there are a number of war memorials in the Borough that cannot be listed, (*see last Newsletter for more details*). An example of a cared for but unprotected war memorial is that in Vencourt Place Royal Mail Sorting Office, which was moved here from the previous location of the sorting office.

I would like to repeat my plea for an inventory to record these unprotected memorials. Are there members who would be willing to help with that?

*Charles Wagner*

## ON THE RIVER



**The Tideway Tunnel Work** has started on the construction of the Tideway Tunnel at several places along the Thames. At Carnworth Road, which will be a main tunnelling site, they are building an acoustic shed and strengthening the river wall. Opposite us, on the Putney Embankment, construction is complete of a temporary drawdock to replace the existing one adjacent to Putney road bridge, which will become inaccessible once tunnelling starts.

**The Riverside Walk and another Fulham FC planning application** The opening in July/August of a new path along the river wall at the Queens Wharf – Riverside Studios development, and of a new riverside path at the Palace Wharf development, just upstream of the Crabtree Pub, means that the National Trail from the borough boundary upstream, downstream to the Fulham FC ground, is now complete.

The football club has permission to open a riverside path as part of the construction of a new riverside stand. Although granted in 2012 there has been no sign as to when they might start on that. We learn that the club is up for sale, but now we've heard it is about to start the pre-application process for a revised design. This would still increase the capacity to 30,000, will not be quite so high, but would include enhanced designs for restaurant facilities, which the Club hopes would provide revenue streams on non-match days. Sadly they will assume that the faults of the previous application will still be agreed. They include extensive encroachment into the river, which is contrary to policies set out by the borough, the Mayor of London, the Port of London Authority and the Environment Agency. And a threat to the recreational and sporting use of the river: the tall cliff-like building

will block the wind making sailing impossible. The suggestion that a re-designed building will solve this problem is unconvincing, to say the least.

Sadly there is more. The planning process does not take into consideration other factors. For example: that the construction process would require the closure for two or three years of a large section of Bishops Park, and possibly of Stevenage Park at the other end of the ground. The Club says it wants to create revenue streams on non-match days and that the new stand will include riverside pubs and restaurants and event facilities. The 'alphabet streets' are popular because there are no pubs etc. It is thought that this disregard of the area's origin and history will adversely impact its amenity and is to be deplored. See dates for your diary on back page.

*Roger Weston September 2017*

## HBG PLAQUES UPDATE



*The HBG blue plaque is now to be seen on 'Kings House' at 174 Hammersmith Rd, an office building on the site of the former Kings Theatre: see article on the theatre in Newsletter 36 Summer 2017.*

## PLANNING MATTERS

**T**he Group continues to respond to planning applications that may have an impact upon our Heritage Assets. A summary of recent applications the Group has responded to in recent months and an update on earlier ones follows.

**Landmark House** The controversial 22 storey mixed development proposal for the site opposite St Paul's Church has been granted permission. We remain

concerned about the height and its impact on riverside views.

**Clement Attlee Estate** An application has been submitted for the erection of a 20 storey residential block following the demolition of the existing 17 storey Edith Summerskill House.

**Hoxton Hotel, Shepherd's Bush** The application is scheduled to go before the Planning Committee on 11 October with officers' recommendation for approval. The Group considered the final scheme was an acceptable neighbour to the Dorsett Hotel.

**Fulham Gasworks** A campaign to have the framework of gasholder Number 2 upgraded from grade II to grade II\* has been supported by the Group with an admirable submission by Michael Bussell to Historic England. Readers will recall his excellent article in N35.

**Riverside Walk** Suffice to report that great things are happening along the River please see Roger Weston's article on page 5.

**Advertisements** I am pleased to report that the appeal against a continuance notice served relating to the Premier Inn Hotel opposite All Saints Church by Putney bridge was dismissed. The group submitted evidence to the Inspector supporting the Council's action. Applications to install linked telephone kiosk units in several of the Borough's main streets have been refused. We consider that these are thinly disguised advertisement hoardings. We understand that the applicants are appealing against the decision; we will of course support the Council should this be the case.

**The Triangle site, Hammersmith Grove/Beadon Road** Whilst one scheme is awaiting a public enquiry, yet another scheme has been submitted, for this very prominent site. We consider it to have little more to offer than a set back of the building line in Hammersmith Grove. Little has been done to respond to our other concerns. We remain of the opinion that its design does not do justice to this very importance site in the centre of the Lyric Square complex.

**The Old Court House North End Road** The group has supported the Council on its refusal to grant permission for a series of internal alterations to this listed building, and has submitted a statement to the Inspectorate for the forthcoming appeal hearing.

**10-12 Wellesley Avenue W6** We have no concerns regarding the demolishing of the existing garaging facilities and workshop. However we considered the proposals for mixed office development did not respect the existing townscape fabric and was an unsympathetic neighbour. We understand the application has since been

withdrawn. We await to see a more sensitive solution presented.

**The Hurlingham Club** An application is under consideration for the demolition of the main swimming pool shell and other sports facilities to be replaced by a new more cohesive structure. We have no issues with the new design proposals which we consider to be an improvement. However footprint of the new structure encroaches onto metropolitan open land. Whilst the amount is not great considering the size of the estate, we are concerned about the precedent that would be set.

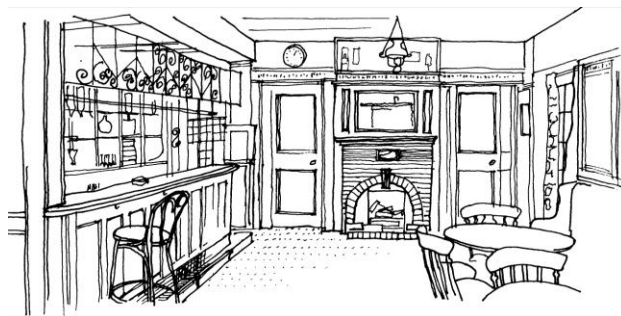
**Old Oak Development** Our thanks to John Goodier who has submitted comments on the Heritage aspects of the OPCD's draft Local plan whilst in its consultation stage.

**The Castle Club. Broomhouse Lane** This long neglected grade II listed school building, pictured below, is once again seeking to become a school.



Applications have been submitted to refurbish and renovate the original structure and provide a modern extension at the rear. We consider that the proposed blending of the new and the old has been successfully achieved. The proposed work also includes replacing the existing boundary wall with one that, whilst fulfilling safety requirements, has a less austere image.

**Hope and Anchor** This former Truman's pub, pictured right above, was built in the 1930s as part of the Riverside Gardens estate next to Hammersmith town hall. It is listed grade II in recognition of its unusually intact ground floor bar area. Although no longer functioning as a pub the bar area has remained in its original condition. We are concerned that the present occupiers having applied to have the entire building classed as residential and had their application refused are appealing against the decision. The group would like to see this rare surviving example of interwar pub interior preserved and



*The Hope and Anchor pub*

viewable by the public even if on a limited basis. We intend to support the Council at the appeal.

*Nicolas Fernley, Chairman, Planning sub committee*

## CONSERVATION AREA ANNIVERSARY

On 21 September 1967 England's first conservation area was designated, and this year is a period of commemorations and looking forward to the next 50 years. The earliest ones in our Borough were designated in 1971 and there are 45. We are fortunate to have a Design and Conservation Team that is gradually producing up-to-date conservation area character profiles. These are vital tools to help the Council judge whether a planning application in or beside a conservation area would harm it or its setting. We look forward to the completion of the remaining conservation area character profiles as soon as possible so they can be made available for public consultation on the Council website before being adopted.

The pressure of development is such in the Borough, that we are concerned that the character and appearance of our conservation areas is being eroded, not by dramatic losses as perhaps happened in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but by cumulative change. Which is why the character profiles are so important, but so also is the local list, known in our Borough as the 'Local Register of Buildings of Merit'.

One place likely to change is Hammersmith town centre, where the latest Masterplan, by Grimshaws may well suggest replacement of some of the buildings along King Street. Concern is that the 'evidence base' for the masterplan has not included a building-by-building historic area analysis of King Street, suggesting which buildings have historic interest and the level of significance of that historic interest - from no interest to a Building of Merit and of course on to listed buildings. Perhaps this group could mobilise to do this – a street survey and search of the archives to create a King Street Gazetteer?

*Charles Wagner*



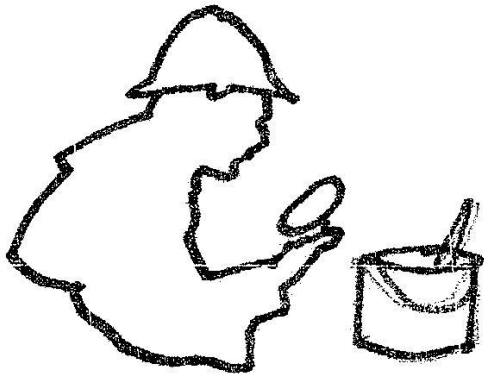


## STOP PRESS

**Hammersmith Town Hall** - Some of you will have received letters informing you of new proposals for the Town Hall Scheme. We understand that the

architects will be Rogers Stirk Harbour and Partners and the developers A2 Dominion, who developed the Riverside Studios site. Consultation on the new scheme will take place in early November.

**HBG Annual General Meeting** To be held on Tuesday 14 November at the Dorsett Hotel, 58 Shepherd's Bush Green, W12 8QE, at 7pm. Doors open at 6.30pm. Patrick Baty, one of Britain's foremost paint historians, will give a talk entitled "The Paint Detective".



**Threshold and Union House/Hoxton Hotel, 65 Shepherd's Bush Green** was approved on 10.10.17.

**The Triangle (5-17 Hammersmith Grove).** The current application was refused on 10.10.17. The previous scheme is still scheduled to go to Appeal in early 2018.

**GWR Old Oak Common Depot** Michael Bussell tells us that Crossrail has made available the recording reports, which can be downloaded from <https://learninglegacy.crossrail.co.uk/documents/archaeology-archive-old-oak-common-depot/>.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Boat Races** University Boat Races - Sat 24 March 2018  
And if you are really interested in Rowing:  
Heads Races: Pairs 14 October 2017, IVs 12 November 2017, Scullers 2 December 2017; Women's VIIIs 10 March 2018, Men's VIIIs 11 March 2018, Schools 12 March 2018, and Veterans' 25 March 2018.

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