Chair: Brian Welch
Vice Chair: Vacant
Treasurer: Chris House
Secretary: Maggie Mahoney



## www.avivafellowshipcroydon.org.uk

### **Editor:**

Dave Newland 93 Marlpit Lane COULSDON Surrey CR5 2HH

01737 551 048 dave.and.ann@classicfm.net

# **NEWSLETTER - December 2009**

#### CONTENTS

Editorial & Chairman's Message 1		Theatre etc.		Walks	4
Notice of AGM	2	Our Girl on the Plinth	3	Your Committee	5
Salete et Valete	2	Eating & Drinking	3	2010 Events	6

First, my thanks to the Fellowship members who thanked me for my first effort at producing the *Newsletter* back in the summer and my thanks to the Committee for their continued hard work.

During 2009 we have had a wide range of Fellowship events. I hope the various reports of those that have taken place since the last *Newsletter*, which you can now read about below, may whet the appetite of others to take part in similar events in 2010.

We hope to see as many of you as can make it at the planned events next year.

Could I emphasise the **AGM** on 25<sup>th</sup> **February**. Unfortunately, Peter Monk feels he cannot continue as Vice-Chairman, (see below), so we need a replacement, and we would also welcome others to help organise events. Don't all rush at once!

For those who are on-line, we now have our own Croydon Fellowship web site (See address above). Do look at it to check for new events, any changes etc.

Fellowship members do have a wide range of talents / adventures!

Well done, Carol, for your session on the Trafalgar Square plinth – my only disappointment was that you recited 'Annie's Song' and didn't sing it!

Also, well done Philip on having your photograph (not of you, personally!) chosen for next year's Fellowship birthday cards. I have deliberately **not** included a copy in this publication; let it come as a surprise when it's your birthday. And our thanks to Joan (with Patricia occasionally deputising) for organising the sending of our birthday cards, even if we don't want to be reminded that we are getting older.

Even 'yours truly' still runs marathons (my number in London next year is 29468!) and you can see me in the latest *In Touch* after running a shorter, but much hotter race in Singapore! Are there other members out there who partake in unusual / interesting activities that could be featured in a future edition?

#### MESSAGE FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

The end of December is fast approaching and I would like to wish you all a very enjoyable Christmas and a happy and prosperous 2010.

This time of year is when we hope to hear lots of good news but I am sorry to have to advise that Peter Monk will be standing down as Deputy Chairman at the next AGM. You will see from his explanatory note that in view of all his other commitments he is unable to devote sufficient time to the Fellowship work. Reluctantly I have agreed to Peter's request and would like to express the thanks of the Committee for the time he was able to give since the last AGM.

We shall therefore be looking for a new Deputy at the AGM in February so please let me know if you are prepared to help us. The AGM will be on Thursday 25 February 2010 at the Fairfield Halls so please put the date in your new diaries now.

Brian Welch

#### **Note from Peter Monk**

I am sorry that I need to advise you in mid-term but it is becoming clear that I am overburdened with activities and I must take action. I therefore give notice that I will not be available to continue my role at the next AGM. I support several organisations and I am finding that I've not enough time to deal with my various commitments properly. At the outset we knew it would be tricky and we are now commencing major building work at home, which really has to take a high priority and adds to the load.

I would like to mention that I've been very pleased to have been involved so far, because I have enjoyed working with people and it has been noticeable that the committee really is providing a proactive approach to widening the scope of our Fellowship. I hope it proves a successful style and helps enlarge the participating membership.

NEWSFLASH: Due to closure of the A25 at Sundridge in January/February 2010 the Coffee Morning venue on TUESDAY 9 FEBRUARY is changed – see page 4 for details.

**NOTICE of AGM:** The **Croydon Fellowship Annual General Meeting** will be held in the **Fairfield Room, Fairfield Halls, Croydon** on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 1.30 pm**, preceded by a buffet lunch at 12.30 pm. All members are invited to attend.

# .....

#### **SALVETE et VALETE - 2009**

#### Welcome to the following:

#### **BAKER** Valerie Vanessa **BARNATO** Jane **BOURNE** Nigel **BURNELL** Michael **CLARKE** Kevin **DELANEY** Simon **DICKINS** John **ELMS** Patricia **FITZELLE** David **FRANCIS** Mrs. M. **GAYWOOD** Sybil **HAMBY** David **HARVEY** Pauline **HEMMING** Valerie HILTON Olive **HOPKINS** Anne **IRONS** Lily **JONES** Edward **McMAHON** Lynn MOODY Noel **PAYNE** Gloria **PORTER** Eileen **SMITH** Sue **SWALLOW** Sandra **TIBBLE** David **TOMS**

### And we have said 'Farewell' to:

Stan	BAKER
Frederick	BOOTY
Marie	CHAPPORY
Maisie	CLARKE
Grahame	DAVIS
Roger	DOUGLAS
Michael	FARROW
Elly	FAULDER
Dorothy	FOOKES
Shirley	GUTSOLE
Des	HANDLEY
Pamela	LEEVES
Michael	LOWE
Mary	MACGREGOR
Doreen	MERRIMAN
Alf	MULLINS
Peter	NICHOLLS
R. G.	NIGHTINGALE
Les	PARROTT
Gwendoline	PATTON
Norman	PAUL
Eileen	PURSEY
Felicity	REED
Richard	SIGEE
David	SLADE
Joseph	TIBBLE
Doris	WEEDS
Peter	WINGETT

If you have not already done so, please let the Membership Secretary know the types of activity that interest you, so we can send you details. If you have an e-mail address, let us know that so we can contact you this way and reduce postage costs.

**WINTER** 

Richard

To avoid any possible misunderstanding, please note that the above list includes both people who have transferred to other fellowships and those who have, sadly, died.

### THEATRE etc. VISITS

Fellowship visits to see 'Oklahoma' and 'The Wizard of Oz' were arranged in October and November.

We shall be taking bookings soon for two musicals. If you are already on our list for theatre trips, we'll send you booking forms in the new year. (Our list includes anyone who has recently booked, plus anyone else who asks to be on it. If you're unsure, contact **Philip Talmage** to add your name.) Subsidised tickets for the Thursday matinee performances will cost just £13 each.

'Footloose' at the Churchill Theatre, Bromley (15 April): Ravensbourne Light Operatic Society will present this Broadway and West End smash hit: Footloose the Musical is packed full of electrifying dancing and classic eighties hits including: Holding Out For A Hero, Almost Paradise, Let's Hear It For The Boy and the title track Footloose.

'My Fair Lady' at the New Wimbledon Theatre (10 June): Wimbledon Light Opera Society will produce My Fair Lady which includes some of the world's most famous songs: I Could Have Danced All Night; On the Street Where You Live and I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face, and some of the best-known characters ever to appear on stage. The theatre is 5 minutes' walk from Wimbledon rail, tube and tram station, which many of our regulars will be able to reach using their Freedom Passes. We also hope to see Guildford members there.

#### **OUR GIRL ON THE PLINTH**

Carol Courtney was selected as one of the 2,400 people out of more than 30,000 applicants, to occupy the plinth at Trafalgar Square. On Thursday 20th August she spent an hour reading poetry selected by her family and friends. She has written a full account of the experience for "In Touch".

Early on 14<sup>th</sup> October Carol returned to Trafalgar Square to support the final plinther and celebrate the

end of "One and Other". Over 50 plinthers in their white and red T-shirts cheered and sang "Auld Lang Syne". Anthony Gormley was there giving interviews to press and television. He also signed Carol's T-shirt. The question "Is this Art?" was debated among the plinthers as well as the press. The conclusion was it didn't matter - it had been a lot of fun and a life enhancing experience. Carol



Carol (left) No. 1079 takes over from Fiona (1078)



The Last Change-over



#### **Editor's Notes:**

- 1. See a full report in the latest *In Touch*.
- 2. Carol trained for this for over 12 months. Here she is practising whilst on our Country Walk in July last year!



Christmas Lunch

#### **EATING & DRINKING**

Another pub lunch was held at the Good Companions on 10<sup>th</sup> September. 43 people attended – it would have been nice to see a few more. Our thanks to Patricia for organising it. Maggie organised a Fish & Chip lunch in October and both a Fish & Chip lunch and a Fish & Chip supper are on the menu for 2010.

Also our thanks to Patricia, Maggie and Chris for organising the Christmas lunch. Numbers at 96 were a bit down on last year. This should have increased the editor's chances of winning a raffle prize, but no such luck again! As usual, the food and service at the 'Aerodrome Hotel' were excellent. An innovation was being entertained whilst we ate, by Dean Ager (right) singing songs associated with the 'Rat Pack'.



The fellowship holds regular informal coffee mornings, no need to book, just turn up and be assured of a warm welcome. Spouses, partners or a friend are just as welcome. Monthly coffee mornings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at The White Hart, High Street, Brasted, Kent. TN16 1JE at 10:30 am. The coffee at Brasted is paid for by the Fellowship whilst funds permit! Quarterly coffee mornings are held on the last Wednesday of February, May, August and November at The Dene Restaurant in Knights Garden Centre, Woldingham Road, Woldingham, Surrey. CR3 7LA at 10:30am. Once a year, usually a Thursday at the end of July, we have a coffee morning at Chartwell, where in addition to meeting up with old friends there is also the opportunity to visit Sir Winston Churchill's home and to roam the gardens. Chartwell, Mapleton Road, Westerham, Kent. TN16 1PS at 10:30 am. An additional coffee morning may be arranged in Croydon.

And there is the AGM preceded by a buffet lunch.

See the calendar of events for next year's dates and note the coffee morning venue change for 9<sup>th</sup> February.

#### **WALKS**

#### Hogsmill River - July 21st

Numbers were a bit disappointing – maybe people were put off at the thought of going across the sites of defunct gunpowder factories or perhaps Pre-Raphaelite paintings are not your style! Completely by chance, the day of the walk co-incided with the beginning of a series on TV dramatising the said Pre-Raphaelites.

We were also blessed with another unexpected happening. For some time now a small garden centre towards the end of the walk had been trying to obtain permission to open a café. Amazingly, the café opened just one week previously, so cream teas were enjoyed by all – and it sheltered us from the rain shower! As the last two walks have now included a cream tea, it seems to have set a precedent, so I will see what I can do for 2010.

The walk followed the Hogsmill River, in Ewell, Surrey, from its source at Bourne Hall as far as the border with Kingston. We then diverted along Bonesgate Stream, a tributary, to the Bonesgate Pub for lunch, and then returned along the other side of the Bonesgate and Hogsmill, stopping off at the aforementioned garden centre. The walk finished along Green Lane Stream, another tributary. I was hoping we might spot some kingfishers, but, sadly, we didn't.



Horse Pond, Ewell Village, Hogsmill Walk

### Regent's Canal Walk II - September 18th

Once again, we were lucky weather wise, when 25 of us set off again to explore the Regents Canal. We had enjoyed the earlier trip so much, walking to Mile End, we thought we would head in the other direction towards Camden Lock

Roger Wilkinson was our guide again. He is from the British Waterways company, and a mine of information.

He led us through the streets to Little Venice, a lovely area of gracious houses, where anyone who is anyone, has lived there sometime.

Further on we came to the outskirts of Regents Park & could see the tower of the famous mosque, although there was no call to prayers as we went by. Looming over the path we could see part of the bird aviary designed by Lord Snowdon for London Zoo. Egrets and Peacocks strutted around, and cheeky sparrows flew in and out, stealing their food.

All too soon we came to Camden Lock and the famous markets. We said goodbye to Roger & headed for the colourful stalls full of bargains (or tat, depending on your views) A very welcome smell of hot food greeted us & everyone quickly dispersed, to shop & eat before returning home.

We are planning a couple more walks somewhere around London next year, and everyone will be very welcome.



Canal Bridge, Hawley Lock, Camden, Regents Canal

**Editor's Note:** In 2010, in addition to Judy's plans for two more conducted walks in London, David Broom is organising a conducted walk around Old Limpsfield and I am arranging another 'country' walk, probably along Beverley Brook through Roehampton Vale and across Richmond Park. Get those walking shoes on!

## **Important Announcement:** Change of Venue for Coffee Morning Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2010

The A25 at Sundridge is being closed for gas main renewal from January 18 to February 26 and major traffic diversions are to be set up. As this is just along the road from our monthly coffee morning at The White Hart in Brasted I believe it will be better for members not to become caught up in the traffic chaos that is sure to ensue.

Therefore, I am changing the venue to 4<sup>th</sup> floor restaurant in Allders of Croydon at 10:30 am.

In addition to avoiding the traffic chaos along the A25 it will also give other members who do not have cars the opportunity to enjoy a get-together by using public transport.

If this Central Croydon location proves to be popular it could become a regular feature in our Diary of Events, it's up to you to let us know what you think of the idea.

### YOUR COMMITTEE

Chairman **Brian WELCH** 66 Crossways, S. CROYDON. CR2 8JN

020 8657 1354 brian.welch3@btinternet.com (BW)

Vice Chairman Vacant

**Treasurer Chris HOUSE** 141 Valley Road, KENLEY. CR8 5BZ

> 020 8763 0890 housec@avivafellowship.force9.co.uk (CH)

**Secretary** Maggie MAHONEY 49 Elmpark Gdns, S. CROYDON. CR2 8RW

> 020 8651 5024 mahoney@avivafellowship.force9.co.uk (MM)

**Membership Secretary Alan EMMINS** 122 Norfolk Ave, S. CROYDON. CR2 8BS

> 020 8651 4079 aemmins@f2s.com (AE)

Judy DUMBRILL 7 Macaulay Road, CATERHAM. CR3 5HR

01883 344 659 dj.dumbrill@ntlworld.com (JD)

Patricia PEGG 57 Thornton Crescent, OLD COULSDON. CR5 1LG

01737 552 234

Joan PRICE 58 Limpsfield Road, S. CROYDON. CR2 9EB

020 8651 0517 joan price@btinternet.com (JP)

(IR)

#### **OTHER CONTACTS:**

**Website Manager** Ian RAE 169 Valley Road, KENLEY. CR8 5BZ

> 020 8660 6910 ian@irmamusic.com

**Newsletter Editor Dave NEWLAND** 93 Marlpit Lane, COULSDON. CR5 2HH

01737 551 048 dave.and.ann@classicfm.net (DN)

**Event Organiser Philip TALMAGE** 

> 020 8656 1886 philipt@blueyonder.co.uk (PT)

33 Wickham Ave. CROYDON. CR0 8TZ

**Event Organiser David BROOM** 12 Loxford Way, CATERHAM. CR3 6BX

> 01883 345 231 david\_broom@hotmail.com (DB)

#### Advertisement

#### APARTMENT TO RENT IN VILAMOURA, ALGARVE

New luxury 3 twin bedroomed apartment situated in Algarve's Golden Triangle' on quiet, green belt complex with pools, gym, bar/restaurant, supermarket, near to beaches, tennis, golf courses (Vila Sol 200 metres), marina, nightlife and numerous international restaurants. Faro 15kms.

See www.holidaylettings.co.uk/8556.

Please contact Tony O'Connell: 01268 724391 or mobile 0779 3017887.

# **DIARY OF EVENTS FOR 2010**

Date	Organiser	Event	Venue	Time		
JANUA						
Tue 1	2 MM	Coffee Morning †	White Hart, Brasted	10.30		
FEBRU		T1.	Cont. Cont.	10 15 6 10 45		
	4 PP <b>9 MM</b>	Lunch Coffee Morning †	Good Companions, Hamsey Green  4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Restaurant, Allders, Croydon	12.15 for 12.45 <b>10.30</b>		
Wed 24		Coffee Morning †	Knight's Garden Centre, Woldingham	10.30		
Thu 2		<b>Buffet Lunch</b>	Fairfield Room, Fairfield Halls, Croydo			
		& AGM		13.30		
MARCI		~ ~		40.00		
	9 MM	Coffee Morning †	White Hart, Brasted	10.30		
Sat 20	O JP	Visit to Croydon Aerodrome	Puriey way, Croydon	10.45 for 11.00		
APRIL			****	10.20		
Tue 17	3 MM JD	Coffee Morning †	White Hart, Brasted London – TBA	10.30 TBA		
Thu 1:		* Walk – Blue Badge * 'Footloose'	Churchill Theatre, Bromley	Matinée		
Tue 20		* Fish 'n' Chips Supper	McDermott's, Forestdale Centre, Selsdon			
MAY		1 11	,			
	5 JW	* Visit to Steam Railway	Bluebell Railway	TBA		
Tue 1		Coffee Morning †	White Hart, Brasted	10.30		
Wed 19		* Lunch	The Horseshoe, Warlingham	12:00 for 12:30		
Wed 2	6 MM	Coffee Morning †	Knight's Garden Centre, Woldingham	10:30		
JUNE						
	8 MM	Coffee Morning †	White Hart, Brasted	10:30		
Thu 10	O PT	'My Fair Lady'	New Wimbledon Theatre	Matinée		
Mon 1	_	* Excursion to Museum	Coach Trip to Chatham Dockyard	TBA		
Thu 2	4 DB	Guided Walk †	Old Limpsfield	TBA		
JULY						
Tue 1		Coffee Morning †	White Hart, Brasted	10:30		
TBA	DN NM	Country Walk †	? Along Beverley Brook – Roehampton V			
Thu 29	9 MM	Coffee Morning †	Chartwell	10:30		
AUGUS			~~			
	3 BW	* Italian Lunch	GI Restaurant, West Wickham	TBA		
Tue 10 Wed 13		Coffee Morning † Garden Visit	White Hart, Brasted Wisley	10:30 TBA		
Wed 2		Coffee Morning †	Knight's Garden Centre, Woldingham	10:30		
SEPTENT Tue 14		Coffee Morning †	White Hart, Brasted	10:30		
TBA	JD	* Walk – Blue Badge	London – TBA	TBA		
OCTOE Mon	SEK 4 PP	* Lunch	New Venue TBA	TBA		
Tue 12		Coffee Morning †	White Hart, Brasted	10:30		
Tue 2		* Fish 'n' Chips Lunch	McDermott's, Forestdale Centre, Selsdon			
NOVEN	IRER	<u>-</u>				
	9 MM	Coffee Morning †	White Hart, Brasted	10:30		
TBA	PT	<b>6</b> 1	Churchill Theatre, Bromley			
Wed 2		Coffee Morning †	Knight's Garden Centre, Woldingham	10:30		
TBA	PT		Ashcroft Theatre, Croydon			
DECEMBER						
TBA	PP	* Christmas Luncheon	Aerodrome Hotel, Purley Way	12:00 for 12:30		
Tue 1	4 MM	Coffee Morning †	White Hart, Brasted	10:30		
NT 4						

**Notes:** For organisers' contact details, see list of committee members and other event organisers.

<sup>†</sup> No booking is required for events with the † symbol. Just turn up.

<sup>\*</sup> Dates and / or times of starred events are liable to alteration / cancellation.