

the story. If you want to become a member, we can put you on the list for nomination. Our constitution says there can be no more than 25 of us. As a senior citizen, I'm quite happy to make way for someone younger when my term expires next summer. If you're interested, peruse the contacts list. We want to hear from you.

### Members

*Community Members* Jack Thompson (Chair); Lucia Annear (Vice-Chair); Sally Green (secretary); Rodney Pinder; Marguerite Weedy; Margaret Tudor; Robert Johnson; Mike Colvin; Andrew Fletcher; Peter Taylor; Reverend Canon Dianna Gwilliams; Owen Brenman; Jim Ford; Harry Niazi; Carmen Zapatero; *Village Ward Councillors (non-voting)* Robin Crookshank Hilton, Nick Vineall and Toby Eckersley *Safer Neighbourhood Team (non-voting)* Sergeant Jeff Jenkinson, PCs Alastair Gellatly and Stephen Bush; PCSOs Ahmad Farzad, Nathalie Fichet, Sherl Robery and Darren Weems

### Contacts

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or 07767 498128

Lucia Annear: lucia.poon@slam.nhs.uk

Sergeant Jeff Jenkinson:

VillageWard.SNT@met.police.uk

Help to beat crime in dulwich. it's your safer neighbourhood panel and your safer neighbourhood team. use them. that's what they're there for!

## Trade Justice

### Europe Bullying Poor Nations

Jim Hammer

Some of the poorest nations in the world - the 76 former European colonies which have for 40 years received preferentially lower tariffs on their exports to Europe - are being bullied by the EU into signing up to "European Partnership Agreements" (EPA's) by 31 December this year, because the World Trade Organisation (WTO) has ruled that the existing arrangements are discriminatory. To continue to benefit the poor nations have to "reciprocate" by allowing free access by EU companies to their markets, thus threatening to wipe out promising developing industries in those countries; or else face 10-20% increases in tariffs on their exports to the EU. Either way the poor countries, hitherto aided by trade would loose. They must not be hassled into signing up to clearly disadvantageous deals.

If you didn't sign the petition in September to Gareth Thomas MP, the UK Minister responsible, you can still write to him at DFID, Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

## Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 6 February

10.30am Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes at Christ's Chapel

8.30pm Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes at St Barnabas

# thevillager

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The magazine for your Parish of St Barnabas, Dulwich

St Barnabas Church Calton Avenue London SE21 7DG • 020 8693 1524 • www.stbarnabasdulwich.org

## Advent Appeal

Homelessness remains a massive problem. London has 30,960 homeless households. But these figures ignore most single people who are not treated as in "priority need". A practical way of responding to this problem is to support projects that have a lot of experience in helping homeless people.

Churches in Dulwich and Herne Hill are once again supporting an appeal to help 10 projects (listed below) in S.E. London. Four Day Centres providing food clothing, medical and housing advice, four hostel/advice centres helping young single people, a hostel that works with people with alcohol and drug addictions, and a furniture recycling project. Leaflets describing these projects and ways we can help them are available at St Barnabas and Christ's Chapel. Donations may be sent to Ted Salmon c/o St Barnabas Parish Office, 40 Calton Avenue, London, SE21 7DG; cheques should be made payable to the Social Responsibility Network.

### Projects

Ace of Clubs, Springfield Lodge, The Children's Society, St Giles Trust, Kairos Community, The Manna Society, Christ Church, North Brixton, Morph, Number 3 Cerise Road, Southwark Day Centre for Asylum Seekers and Waterloo Christian Centre.

## Christmas Services

**16 December** • Third Sunday in Advent

6.30pm Parish Carol Service at St Barnabas

**24 December** • Christmas Eve

3.00pm and 4.30pm Crib service at St Barnabas

Children are invited to dress as a character from the Christmas Story

11.30pm First Communion of Christmas at St Barnabas

11.30pm First Communion of Christmas at Christ's Chapel

**25 December** • Christmas Day

8.00am Holy Communion at Christ's Chapel

10.00am Festival Communion at St Barnabas

Children are invited to bring a present to show everyone

10.00am Holy Communion with hymns at Christ's Chapel

## New CD by St Barnabas Choir

The latest CD by St Barnabas Choir has just been released and includes the premiere recordings of two pieces written especially for the Choir of St Barnabas in 2006: *I will go unto the altar of God*, by Harry Bramma, first performed on at the Festival Eucharist for St Barnabas Day, and *A Dream* by Howard Skempton, commissioned with funds provided by Vanessa Mitchell and first performed at the concert in aid of the south London charity for stroke victims and their families Connect.

The choir has also re-recorded for this CD A Song of Chimes by John Casken, written for the Dedication of St Barnabas in 1996 and performed again at the Dedication of the Hunter Bell at the Tenth Anniversary of the new church. It is the first recording to be made with our current Assistant Organist Riccardo Bonci, who plays two solo items, and that the remainder of the works on the CD are drawn from current repertoire. All the pieces of music are varied in style and include two anthems by Charles Wood which are particular favourites of both choir and congregation: O Thou Sweetest Source, and the majestic title track *Glorious and Powerful God*.

Price £10 with 10% discount for anyone buying five or more CDs, the proceeds go towards purchasing additional music and robes for our ever-growing choir, and the CDs can be bought after 10.00am Sunday services at St Barnabas, or via e-mail to parishoffice@stbarnabasdulwich.org

## Wednesdays at St Barnabas

**Wednesdays at St Barnabas** – our annual study series begins on the **16 January**. The course this year is called *Christianity Examined*. It is a modular course exploring the basics of the Christian faith and all are welcome. Each session begins with cake and coffee at **7.45pm**. For more details pick up a leaflet from the Welcome Area at St Barnabas or from our website, [www.stbarnabasdulwich.org](http://www.stbarnabasdulwich.org)

## Anne Shelton nominated for Blue Plaque award

Anne Shelton, the popular singer and wartime “Forces’ Favourite”, has been nominated for an award in Southwark Council’s Blue Plaque scheme. A well-known Court Lane resident for over 50 years until her death in 1994, she was awarded an OBE for work with the “Not Forgotten Association” of disabled ex-servicemen and women.

Awards depend on votes received. To vote email: [vote4icons@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:vote4icons@southwark.gov.uk) or write to Blue Plaques, Southwark Council, Local History Library, 211 Borough High Street, London SE1 1JA by 29 February 2008.

## Dulwich – a Safer Neighbourhood

Jack Thompson

We sit round a table in the pavilion at Allyn’s School. A dozen or so of us, residents of Village Ward, three police officers and Carmen Zapatero, energetic leader of Southwark’s Park Wardens. For my sins, I chair the gathering.

We are the Village Ward Safer Neighbourhood Panel (SNP), selected on the basis of our experience as Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators, representatives of community organisations or, in the case of the Reverend Canon Dianna Gwilliams, because she is vicar of St Barnabas and Foundation Chaplain to

the Foundation Schools. Our job - to oversee the work of the Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) – Sergeant Jeff Jenkinson, PCs Alastair Gellatly and Stephen Bush and four PCSOs. (If you don’t know what a PCSO is, it stands for Police Community Support Officers who, as far as Village Ward is concerned, do a thoroughly good job whatever the press may say – see *the Daily Mail 20 August 2007*)

It’s half past seven in the evening and we’ve got until nine to set the Team’s priorities. We meet about once every six weeks. Our debates are lively, sometimes heated but usually good-humoured. Jeff presents the Village Ward’s crime statistics for the past month, notes the trends – burglary, criminal damage, robbery, violence against the person etc. etc., up or down – the grand total of crimes, petty and not so petty seems to stick at around a hundred a month.

Jeff sits back bracing himself for our questions. Among our number are the three Tory councillors for Village Ward, Robin Crookshank Hilton, Nick Vineall and Toby Eckersley. As ever, Robin has the bit between her teeth! She, and not a few others, are justifiably exercised by Norwood Road. It’s a “strip” that’s getting a bad name. Local residents are fed up with the mess, noise and violence allegedly perpetrated by those who frequent bars and clubs taking advantage of extended licensing hours.

There’s talk of street fights in Herne Hill at three in the morning, bad language and worse aimed at householders bold enough to protest. Norwood Road has become our priority. And there’s creeping desperation based on the suspicion that neither Southwark nor Lambeth

(for this is on the border between the two boroughs) nor the police can do or will do anything about it.

Jeff stoutly denies the charge, pointing out that his team regularly patrol the area but his hands are tied if offences aren’t reported. And there’s the rub. Who to report to?

Robin vents her frustration – the complaints procedure simply doesn’t work, she says. The licensing officials don’t seem to liaise with the police and the police computer doesn’t seem able to converse with Southwark’s. Too few complaints get logged – and if the report of an incident isn’t logged, officially it doesn’t exist, Hence no action.

The arguments are batted back and forth and I have to restrain the assembled throng. We’re running out of time and we have other things to discuss - thefts of schoolchildren’s bikes and mobile phones, security in Dulwich Park, rowdiness in Burbage Road, the theft of lead from St Barnabas Church roof.

It may seem no more than a talking shop for local “activists”. One of our number believes we have neither power nor influence, that this is the Metropolitan Police just ticking boxes and parading their community credentials. But SNPs and SNTs are the brainchildren of no less a copper than the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Sir Ian Blair. Which means Sergeant Jeff and his team do have to take note of what we say and the priorities we set them. What’s more they want the thing to work. Which is where you come in. The SNP can’t function in a vacuum. It needs your support. Even if you’re not a panel member, you can still come to our meetings and tell your side of