

# Corbett News Spring 2015

FOR THOSE WHO LIVE AND WORK ON THE CORBETT ESTATE

## Neighbourhood Forum due to launch in April

The Archibald Corbett Society has issued an application with the support of 58 residents and businesses to Lewisham Council to set up a Neighbourhood Forum for the Corbett Estate. The Council's consultation is under way and due to finish on the 9th of March. If you want to support the application and haven't done so, please email the Council at [planning.policy@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@lewisham.gov.uk) or write to them at Planning Policy, 3rd Floor, Laurence House, Catford, SE6 4RU. Planning will then write a report to be presented to Mayor and Cabinet around the third week of April and the Forum and Area will then become officially designated by the Mayor at the end of April.

### What happens next?

Once the application has been approved an open meeting will be held to formally agree the constitution for the Corbett Estate Neighbourhood Forum and appoint a committee that will be responsible for preparing the Neighbourhood Plan with the support of members of the Forum. Details of the Open Meeting will be posted on the Archibald Corbett Society's website, the Corbett Residents Association facebook page and on twitter and all existing members will be notified through email.

The Corbett Estate Neighbourhood Forum will be a completely separate entity from the Archibald Corbett Society which has been responsible for raising funding and facilitating the start-up of the Forum.

Membership of the Forum is open to anyone who lives, works or operates a business on the Estate and to those living, working or operating a business adjacent to the Estate that would be affected by decisions made by the Forum.

### @ Love Corbett

Love Corbett is a website that is operated by Commonplace on our behalf that allows you to have your say about what you love or don't love about the Corbett Estate. It has been set up as part of our Neighbourhood Forum project to collect information from residents living on the Corbett estate and help us create a Neighbourhood Plan for the estate which becomes a legal document that Lewisham Planning have to consult when assessing planning applications and how the estate should be developed in the future. It is very important that you have your say. Just click Love Corbett on [www.corbetsociety.gov.uk](http://www.corbetsociety.gov.uk), fill in a few details and click on 'post comment'. You can make as many comments as you like.



CONSULTATION MEETING AT  
TORRIDON ROAD LIBRARY

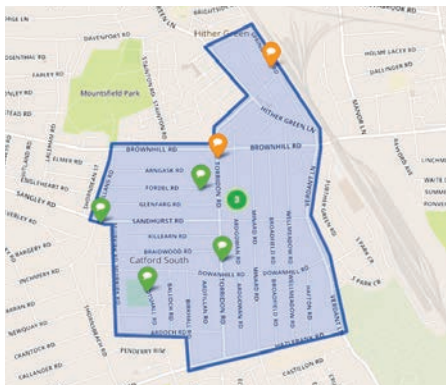
### What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

A Neighbourhood Plan is a community-led guide for the future development, regeneration and conservation of an area. A Neighbourhood Plan may contain a vision, aims, planning policies, and proposals for:

- Improving the area or providing new facilities
- Allocation of key sites for particular kinds of development
- Dealing with a wide range of social, economic and environmental issues – e.g: heritage, community, leisure facilities, parking, business, shopping parades and transport.

A Neighbourhood Plan is a legal document for 5, 10, 15 or 20 years - communities decide the timescale. The Council or planning inspectors will have to make any decisions about the area on the basis of the Neighbourhood Plan and any other related factors. The Neighbourhood Plan is a powerful tool for shaping the development of an area, giving the local community more influence and control over what happens in and the look of their area.

To become a member of the Corbett Estate Neighbourhood Forum and help develop the Neighbourhood Plan please contact [info@thecorbetsociety.org.uk](mailto:info@thecorbetsociety.org.uk)



## Welcome

### to this first edition of Corbett News

Designed to let you know about issues affecting your neighbourhood and inviting you to join in to make the Corbett Estate a better place for the local community. Corbett News is published by the Archibald Corbett Society in association with the Corbett Residents Association, the soon to be formed Corbett Estate Neighbourhood Forum, the Wellmeadow Road Residents and Tenants Association, The Hither Green Community Association and Community Teachsport.

### Get Involved

There are many committed and talented people living on the Corbett Estate and we'd love you to get involved and join in the projects that interest you.

Help us to all develop the estate into a vibrant area that owns and supports its community, recognises its historical legacy and creates a strong future identity for the Estate.



CORBETT ESTATE HOUSE DOORWAYS

### To become a volunteer please contact:

[info@thecorbetsociety.org.uk](mailto:info@thecorbetsociety.org.uk)  
and state what project you would like to volunteer for including helping with the newsletter.

# Save our Corbett Shopping Parades



Survey of local businesses

Last November, a group of Society volunteers joined forces with Angela Koch of Imagine Places to conduct a Business Engagement survey with local businesses funded by Locality as part of the Society's development of a Neighbourhood Forum and Neighbourhood Plan.

Over two days the group visited all the seven shopping parades on the Estate and talked to over forty businesses asking them for their three best ideas on how to improve their local parade and shopping opportunities generally.

Angela and her assistant Lily presented the results of their work to over 20 interested residents at the Library on Saturday the 10th January. The full results of the survey can be accessed by going to [www.thecorbettssociety.org.uk](http://www.thecorbettssociety.org.uk) and click on Community Project/Business Survey. The outcome of the meeting was that it was decided to launch a Save Our Corbett Shopping Parades campaign because the results showed how Lewisham Council had allowed shopping parades on the Estate to become run down and isolated through allowing shops to close down and converting their premises into flats. The result is a hotchpot of developments fragmenting the parades, making them unattractive and lacking in vibrancy and eventually forcing some small traders out of business.

The Archibald Corbett Society and The Corbett Residents Association are committed to supporting all businesses on the estate to re-energise the parades and encourage local residents to shop locally and make the Corbett estate an attractive place to shop with a mix of retailers offering innovative products. A number of volunteers have already committed to joining in and producing a set of displays promoting the campaign to be displayed in 'pop up' shops at all the parades and

canvassing for ideas on how we can make the Estate a great place to shop and trade for residents and businesses alike and to constantly lobby the Council to stop conversion of shop fronts into flats.

## Shop Local, Shop Corbett

A 'Lewisham Local' shopping discount card is being developed by Philippe Granger of Time Bank to encourage people to volunteer for their local groups and be rewarded with a card that when presented at local shops showing the sign will entitle them to discounts on their shopping. For the survey shopkeepers were asked if they would join the scheme, the overall response was 'Yes'. We fully support this brilliant idea, which encourages local residents to support their local shops whilst volunteering for the benefit of the local community.

It is vital we join forces to stop our shopping parades disappear, as has been happening with Ardgowan Road, Muirkirk Road and Springbank Road and create parades of shops that will make people from the estate and further afield want to shop on the Corbett Estate.

Please get in touch with your ideas and join our task force team of Ben, Martha and Natasha in making everywhere on the Corbett Estate a great place to shop.



*Works to improve Sandhurst Market Parade start this Spring*



ARTIST'S IMPRESSION

In June 2012, The Corbett Residents Association Streets and Environment Group undertook a consultation with traders and residents along Sandhurst Market Shopping Parade. As a result the group secured funding from the Catford South Local Assembly to appoint landscape design specialists Shape to prepare an Action Plan for improvements to include design and costing proposals to submit to Lewisham Council's Transport Policy and Development team.

The proposals included pavements being completely replaced, trees being planted and secure bicycle stands being installed. Better rubbish disposal methods would be implemented and traffic calming measures would be introduced in the form of build-outs with some controlled, short-term parking for shoppers. Kerbs would be raised to deter pavement parking as shown in the artist's impression.

Lewisham Council accepted the proposals and awarded £350,000 for the scheme through Transport for London's Local Implementation Plan. The funding is in two stages with work due to start in 2015 and stage two being completed in 2016.



# Abbotshall Road Healthy Lifestyles Centre

due to open May Spring Bank holiday weekend

After three years...of negotiations with the Council, Community Teachsport, a local community interest company, has finally signed a 25 year lease at a peppercorn rent to manage the Abbotshall Road Playing Field on the understanding it regenerates the playing surface and replaces the existing pavilion and changing rooms with a new community Healthy Lifestyles Centre. The plans shown give an idea of the layout of the ground and the style of the modular building, which will be mainly clad in cedar.



CEDAR-CLAD MODULAR BUILDING

## Exercise for All

The Centre is a community led initiative and has been designed as a hub to provide facilities for junior football, cricket and school sports days as well as outdoor and indoor multi-sport and exercise activity for all ages. The building will house changing rooms and a studio area for exercise to include movement and dance and it is hoped to run Zumba and Pilates classes for all ages if there is a demand.

## Healthy Eating at the Community Cafe

There will be a community café run by local group Delicious most Nutritious providing a full menu of food and drink and promoting healthy eating. A community garden will

provide fruit and vegetables for the café. Parents can also join up for Cook and Eat course at the Café and learn how to prepare healthy food dishes.

## Get Healthy, Get Active

The hub will also be the base for a project helping inactive people including those who are overweight, to work with health mentors and coaches on their own individual plans in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere, to become regularly active and lead healthy lifestyles to help prevent the onset of illness or disease. The facilities will also be available for hire for children's parties, community meetings, training workshops, seminars, exhibitions and other community based activities.



GROUND PLAN



If you are interested in hiring all or part of the centre please contact [pjranken@gmail.com](mailto:pjranken@gmail.com) or [ross.walker@teachsport.com](mailto:ross.walker@teachsport.com) or call Ross on 020 8659 5535.

## The Corbett Community Garden at Abbotshall Road

On the 18th October last year volunteers put the finishing touches to the Corbett Community Garden based at the new Healthy Lifestyles Centre at Abbotshall Road. The garden was made possible with £5,000 funding awarded to the Archibald Corbett Society by the Mayor of London's Pocket Parks fund and has a raised vegetable bed system with some at suitable heights for children and wheelchair users. Other features include an edible hedge along the Abbotshall Road fence line with five different varieties of fruits, olive trees and miniature apple and cherry trees, a path bordered with lavender and surrounding areas planted with bulbs supplied by the Catford South Assembly 'Bulbs in Bloom' project.

## Garden volunteers wanted

As Spring approaches there will be another volunteer day to fill the raised beds with compost and plant vegetables and sow a 'Grow Wild' wild flower garden for the summer. All vegetables and fruit that is harvested will be used by Delicious most Nutritious to provide delicious meals in the Community Café. Volunteer days will be led by Karen Cooke and Frank Hooks, so come and join us. For details of future volunteer days please contact [infor@thecorbetsociety.org.uk](mailto:infor@thecorbetsociety.org.uk)



## Junior school sports centre

In 2012 the Government announced that competitive team sports were to be made compulsory for primary schools. The regeneration of Abbotshall Road with fully equipped changing rooms now gives a perfect venue for local schools such as Sandhurst and Torrion Juniors that have no playing fields of their own, to use the Centre for competitive sport, PE and sports days. The ground will also be the venue for borough-wide primary school football and cricket matches.



## Befrienders Wanted

Local volunteer Karen Cooke is setting up a volunteer Befrienders group at the Healthy Lifestyle Centre to provide support to older and vulnerable adults living on the Corbett estate and surrounding areas. As a volunteer Befriender you can help to reduce isolation by providing social contact and support and making a big difference in someone's life.

If you are interested in receiving training and working with Karen to help local vulnerable people please contact [info@thecorbetsociety.org.uk](mailto:info@thecorbetsociety.org.uk)

# Healthy Lifestyles

## and Employment Opportunities for All



The Our Place 'Healthy Lifestyles and Employment Opportunities for All' is a joint initiative between Community Teachsport and The Archibald Corbett Society initially funded and supported by Locality as part of the Our Place government initiative to support local communities to give people more power over local services and budgets in their neighbourhoods and influence how local services are designed, planned and delivered.

### Inspiration

It has been inspired by Archibald Corbett who was concerned to produce a soundly balanced, healthily living community when he built the Corbett estate. The project will operate from the new Healthy Lifestyles Centre at Abbotshall Road and its aim is to create a sustainable community service run by local residents that will have an intended life

of 25 years and beyond and which replicates Archibald Corbett's vision for a healthy living community combined with realistic opportunities for unemployed people to achieve independence through acquiring long term employment and delivered from a venue that is similar to facilities originally provided by the St German's recreation ground that Corbett built where the Library now is.

### Partnerships

In addition to the development of the Healthy Lifestyles Centre, relationships are being developed with Community Connections Consortium, the borough's strategic health and social care consortium with Age Concern as the lead partner, the Council's Community Sector Unit and Public Health divisions, Torridon Road GP practice and Delicious most Nutritious who will be

running the community café at the Healthy Lifestyles Centre.

Ultimately the aim of 'Healthy Lifestyles and Employment Opportunities for All' is to provide community based preventative and supportive healthy living services to improve the quality of life of all communities through increased access to health information, sporting and physical activities and health services. It will also aim to reach out to those at risk of experiencing lifelong limiting illnesses including Afro Caribbean residents who are susceptible at an early age to contracting Type 2 Diabetes, cardio vascular disease and risk of stroke.

We are actively seeking volunteers who are interested in providing support to local residents to help them lead healthy lifestyles and avoid the risk of contracting illness through inactivity. To become a volunteer on this important project, please contact us at [info@thearchibaldcorbettsociety.org.uk](mailto:info@thearchibaldcorbettsociety.org.uk)

### Help us with our survey about Health on The Corbett Estate

As part of our 'Healthy Lifestyles and Employment Opportunities for All' project we are actively seeking residents views on how we can work together to prevent illness and disease amongst residents living on the estate and create a more healthy society.

We will then be able to use the results of the research to work with partners in Public Health to looking at designing appropriate services to help the preventing of lifelong limiting illness and disease through leading healthy lifestyles.

Please tell us you views by filling in a short survey at [www.thearchibaldcorbettsociety.gov.uk/healthsurvey](http://www.thearchibaldcorbettsociety.gov.uk/healthsurvey)

## Archibald Corbett film in the making

The Society has approached the Heritage Lottery for funding to produce a film about Corbett the man and the legacy he has left behind to be written and produced by Society members Ben Honeybone and Godfrey Smith, our local historian and author of Hither Green, 'The Forgotten Hamlet' The Heritage Lottery Fund has



ARCHIBALD CORBETT

indicated that it would like the Society to progress to a full application for funding which will include the production of the film and the development of display and educational material to be distributed to local schools.

### Become a Historian or a Tour Guide

If successful, the funding will allow for opportunities for volunteers to be trained in tour guiding, archival research, interpretation design, including digital design, film production and photography to include heritage skills training. This will be a tremendous opportunity for residents including school children to learn new skills and help build up a history of the Corbett Estate.

If you are interested in volunteering for this exciting project please contact: [info@thecorbettsociety.org.uk](mailto:info@thecorbettsociety.org.uk)

## Events on the Corbett Estate this Spring

The Archibald Corbett Society AGM – April (Check website for details)

The Corbett Estate Neighbourhood Forum Inaugural AGM – April (Check website for details)

Launch of the Abbotshall Road Healthy Lifestyles Centre – April 30 – May 4

#### Credits:

Written and published by the Archibald Corbett Society in association with the Corbett Estate Neighbourhood Forum, The Corbett Residents Association, The Wellmeadow Road Tenants and Residents Association, The Hither Green Community Association

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