

# The Marylebone Association Newsletter November 2019



Dear {Contact\_First\_Name}

## Association News

Christmas is coming, that hopefully also means an end to the roadworks on Marylebone High Street as the Christmas light switch on event takes place on Wednesday 13 November. Will Santa's Grotto need to be relocated?

There are some twelve local Christmas light switch-on events that you may like to attend to get you in the festive mood, see below.

A reminder that the 2019 **Marylebone Interfaith Service** takes place on Tuesday 26 November at 6:45pm, and we look forward to seeing you at St Marylebone Parish Church to celebrate this.

## What you said about the Baker Two Way

Last month we asked you to tell us what you think about the Baker Two way scheme now it is finished. Thank you to all who wrote to share your views. We have collated these comments and will be sharing them with the appropriate project team at Westminster. We will keep a careful eye on the project evaluation and share its findings once we have seen them.

## Marylebone News

### Farewell to Mark Field MP

Mark Field surprised us all a few weeks ago by announcing that he would not fight the Cities of London and Westminster seat at the forthcoming election. In his statement he said speculation about an imminent general election "has forced me to reach the very difficult decision not to offer myself as your candidate". You can read the full statement [here](#).

Over the twenty years that Mark has been our MP he has done much to support the Association and we are sorry to see him go but wish him all the best in his future endeavours. The Conservative and Labour candidates for this seat have yet to be announced but with the Liberal Democrat candidate being Chuka Umunna, it looks set for an extremely interesting contest whoever is chosen.

### Twelve Christmas Lights Events in and around the area:



1. Carnaby Street & Savile Row 7 November
2. **Edgware Road** 12 November
3. **Marylebone High Street** 13 November
4. Bond Street 13 November
5. Regent Street 14 November
6. **Oxford Street** 21 November
7. Connaught Street 22 November
8. **Chiltern Street** 28 November
9. St Christopher Place TBC
10. **Wyndham Place Christmas Tree** 4 December
11. Trafalgar Square Christmas Tree 5 December
12. Winter Wonder Land Hyde Park 21 Nov to 5 Jan

### House of Fraser Development

This week an application was approved for 318 Oxford Street- formally know as the House of Fraser to use part of the basement to third floors and fourth to sixth floors as offices, the rest of the basement as a gymnasium and the addition of a restaurant at part of the seventh floor. This is the latest sign that retail, even on Oxford Street, is under threat. The argument was that diversifying the uses of the building was vital to its long term occupation and the success of this part of Oxford Street. The Planning Committee agreed and unanimously approved the application.

With the long term demise of high street retail use together with high rents and rates putting huge financial pressure on the traditional department store model we are likely to see more of this type of application. For residents, the change of use, in this case, is relatively benign. However the Association is aware that other applications for change of use from retail may be less so. Applications for nightclubs and bars, particularly in the basements of these large buildings, could have a deleterious effect on the neighbourhood and is something we hope Westminster Council will do their best to resist.

### Moxon Street Development

Building website reports that Multiplex is being lined up for a £100m mixed-use scheme that it originally lost to Kier. The firm initially came second last year to Kier on the bid for the Moxon Street development, now known as Marylebone Square.

### Westminster City Plan

Earlier this week Westminster City Council published the latest draft City Plan. This is basically its final stage, it will be considered by Full Council on the 13th November before submission to the Secretary of State. This is an important document that will decide the direction of travelling for planing, development and much else in Westminster for years to come. The latest Plan and accompanying papers can be viewed [here](#).

Disappointingly none of the Association's submissions were incorporated in this draft, partly because only minor amendments were permitted at this late stage, although a few of our earlier stage submissions have did appear to a lesser or greater extend in the previous draft. This makes it all the more important that the Marylebone Forum should be supported in developing its Neighbourhood Plan - it has already seen a number of its proposed policies appear in some form in the Plan, on affordable housing, parking and special policy areas. This means that the Plan can now be streamlined with just a few key policies, such as one to bring in more comprehensive restrictions on basement development.

## Street Entertainment in Oxford Street

Westminster Council have been pondering the question of what to do about busking in various parts of the City. They have been consulting with a number of groups including performers, shopkeepers, residents and resident associations. It appears they are very close to launching some initiatives designed to reduce the nuisance that can occur whilst at the same time allowing the continuation of this vibrant part of city life in Westminster.

The four areas which most concern are Covent Garden, Trafalgar Square, Leicester Square and Oxford Street. All four areas produce different challenges. In fact Covent Garden has been 'self regulated' by the performers themselves for a number of years and so will be left alone.

For the other three areas there will be different regimes put in place. This is planned for May 2020 after final legal consultation and statutory procedures have been completed. In all cases the plan is to try the system for up to a year to check that they work.

Westminster have come to the conclusion that Oxford Street is particularly unsuitable for busking due to the massive footfall on comparatively narrow pavements. The sound from amplified systems is a particular nuisance on the street but also it reverberates down many side streets to the great discomfort of residents and shoppers. Therefore the proposal is for busking to be licenced and allowed on only three pitches, only one of which will allow for amplification and is to be located at the Marble Arch roundabout.

However this is not necessarily going to solve all the issues surrounding 'performing' in the area. It is worth reading Westminster's definition of busking and in particular to note what it does NOT include:

*The Busking/ Street Entertainment policy applies to artists and performers who entertain people on our streets, including circus, dance, magic and street theatre shows, as well as music, living statues and other types of entertainment.*

*Activities not covered by the street entertainment policy include:*

- *religious gatherings or preaching on the street*
- *protests or marches on the street*
- *charity collections on the street*
- *noise from vehicles including pedicabs on the highway or carriageway*
- *street gambling*
- *noise from premises*
- *special events such as premiers, shop openings and Christmas lights*

## This Month in Marylebone History

### Gallows - November

The Tyburn gallows in Marylebone were last used on 3 November 1783, when John Austin, a highwayman, was hanged. For the next eighty-five years hangings were staged outside Newgate prison. Then, in 1868, due to public disorder during these public executions, it was decided to execute the convicts inside the prison.

### Openings and Closings

The Gunmaker Pub has reopened!

TOKii will be a new dining destination in Marylebone London, centrally located on Great Cumberland Place. Housed within the newly opened The Prince Akatoki London hotel.

OKA, a Pan Asian & Sushi restaurant will be opening at 19 New Cavendish Street.

CoCo Ichibanya, a Japanese curry house is opening at 39 James Street.

Mr & Mrs Small, a premium Dog Services & Dog Friendly Cafe will be opening at 31 New Cavendish Street.

Rimadesio furniture shop is opening at 85 Wigmore Street.

## New Business Members

## Members Offers

### 15% off all fine Fragrances and Skin Care at NVS Pharmacy



Until the 31st December NVS Pharmacy at 46 Baker Street are offering members 15% of all fine Fragrances and Skin Care. A free gift wrapping service is available.

---

## Association Events

### [Museum of Brands](#)

Fri, 8 November 2019 11:00 AM 111-117 Lancaster Road W11 1QT

Few things evoke nostalgia more than old packaging and advertising materials so we expect a lot of 'Ah, I remember ...' on our visit to the Museum of Brands in Notting Hill. This unique collection, housing more than 12,000 original examples of domestic 'everyday' products, is based on the personal collection of consumer historian Robert Opie. Set out in chronological order, we will travel through The Time Tunnel to explore the remarkable story of how our consumer society has evolved, displaying favourite brands in their historical context – from the naive charm of Victorian times to the greater sophistication of today, reflecting changes in shopping habits, the impact of transportation and the effects of two world wars and the gradual emancipation of women.

Our tour will start at 11 am with an introductory lecture of approx. 30 minutes, and we will then be left to explore the museum in our own time. This can take an hour – longer or less depending on how much time you have. In addition to the Time Tunnel there are some smaller exhibits such as toys of the 1950s, as well as a loop of vintage advertisements on the television.

Since 2015 the Museum has been housed in the iconic London Lighthouse Building at 111-117 Lancaster Road, Notting Hill, formerly a hospice owned by the Terrence Higgins Trust

which also houses a café, a shop and has a large, restful garden. The café provides coffee, tea and pastries to enjoy at any time - in the garden if weather permits – and also serves hot food for anyone who would like a light lunch.

Cost £11 including talk and entrance fee, payable on the day, based on a minimum of 20 people. Please book your place with [liz.queenan@marylebone.org](mailto:liz.queenan@marylebone.org) or phone 020 7486 3709

#### [Arthur Murray Dance Studios](#)

Mon, 18 November 2019 12:00 PM *Arthur Murray Dance Studios, 77 Baker Street W1U 6RF*

A must for all 'Strictly ...' fans! Arthur Murray Dance Studios in Baker Street is hosting Marylebone Association members for a free 'tasting' session of their famous dance classes.

From 12-12.30pm there will be the opportunity to enjoy refreshments and conversation when members will also be introduced to the studio and learn about the rich history of Arthur Murray and the glorious teachings of Ballroom and Latin Dance that are 107 years in the making.

After the introduction, members will then be invited to partake in a 45minute Ballroom and Latin dance taster group class. No dance experience is required, it will be introductory and most importantly fun! At the end of the event anyone interested in pursuing this further can sign up for a complimentary personal lesson.

Why wait until January 1<sup>st</sup> to start on those New Year resolutions to 'try something new' - do it today, book your place for November 18<sup>th</sup> for this marvellous FREE event. Contact [rosemary.forgan@marylebone.org](mailto:rosemary.forgan@marylebone.org) or tel: 020 7916 9353

#### [Interfaith Service](#)

Tue, 26 November 2019 6:45 PM *St Marylebone Parish Church*

You are cordially invite to you to attend the annual Marylebone Service, an interfaith celebration of Marylebone. No need to RSVP

#### [Afternoon Tea](#)

Wed, 4 December 2019 3:00 PM *The Wallace Collection Manchester Square, W1U 3BN*

Join us for a pre-Christmas afternoon tea with sandwiches, scones, cakes and a glass of Prosecco in the lovely surroundings of the Wallace Collection.

Cost per person including tea & service £25 (the same cost as last year) payable on the day. Please book places with [linda.davies@marylebone.org](mailto:linda.davies@marylebone.org) or telephone 07771 656509.

#### [Exclusive event with Sherlock Holmes writer Bonnie MacBird](#)

Thu, 5 December 2019 3:00 PM *The Marylebone, 93 Marylebone High Street*

The chance to join Marylebone-resident and 'Sherlockian author' Bonnie MacBird as she introduces you to some unusual corners of London featured in *The Devil's Due*, the latest novel in her acclaimed Sherlock Holmes Adventure series for HarperCollins.

It's a fog shrouded winter of 1890, and Sherlock Holmes is on the trail of a diabolical killer of London's leading philanthropic lights – a killer who has sent a note signed "Lucifer". Thwarted by a new chief at Scotland Yard, and dogged by a journalist seeking revenge, Holmes, along with Watson, travels from Mayfair to Spitalfields, the Isle of Dogs to Kensington confronting anarchists and artists, opera stars, MP's and street urchins in a quest to catch the killer who has drawn a bloody swathe through London.

Bonnie MacBird is an award-winning Hollywood script-writer who decided to follow in Conan Doyle's footsteps, writing further adventures for the great sleuthing duo. *The Devil's Due* is her third Sherlock Holmes novel, all written in the style of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

Tickets, priced £20, include the talk, a personally signed hardback copy of *The Devil's Due* and a festive glass of Prosecco or cup of tea, and cakes. To book your place contact [rosemary.forgan@marylebone.org](mailto:rosemary.forgan@marylebone.org) or telephone 020 7916 9353.

## Regular Association Events

(For more details click on the event)

#### [Book Club](#)

Tue, 5 November 2019 6:30 PM *The King's Head pub, Westmoreland Street, London W1*

#### [Pub Evening](#)

Mon, 11 November 2019 6:30 PM *The Prince Regent, 71 Marylebone High Street W1U 5JN*

#### [Scrabble Club](#)

Tue, 12 & 26 November 12, 2019 5:00 PM *The Natural Kitchen, 55 Baker Street, W1*

## Marylebone Events

(For more details click on the event)

#### [Oscar & George On Film](#)

Tue, November 05, 2019 7:00 PM *St Marylebone Parish Church*

#### [Jazz Concert - Reformation: Age of Mayhem](#)

Sun, November 10, 2019 7:00 PM *The Annunciation, Marble Arch, Bryanston Street*

#### [Oscar & George On Film](#)

Tue, November 19, 2019 7:00 PM *St Marylebone Parish Church*

#### [The Old Marylebone Town Hall](#)

Wed, November 27, 2019 1:00 PM *55 Baker Street*

#### [Horatio's Garden Charity Carol Concert](#)

Mon, December 02, 2019 6:30 PM *St Marylebone Parish Church,*

#### [A Silver Christmas Celebration](#)

Fri, December 06, 2019 6:30 PM *St Marylebone Parish Church*

#### [Public Art \(Statues to Subways\)](#)

Tue, December 10, 2019 1:00 PM *55 Baker Street*