

CHURCH STREET NEWS

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WELCOMING DAVENTRY RESIDENTS

We were delighted to host a welcome lunch for residents in their new homes at Daventy House on Lisson Grove. The Lord Mayor of Westminster, Cllr Patricia McAllister and Ward Cllrs joined residents, families and friends to mark their move. During September, residents moved from Penn House into the new community supported housing development.

As well as enjoying a buffet lunch it was also an opportunity to remember recently passed residents. Read and see more on page 2.



Join us at Church Street Christmas Lights Switch on **30 November**, read more inside.



A SPECIAL GET TOGETHER

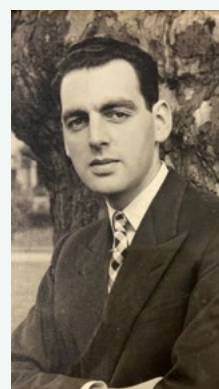
The Daventry House lunch was the first time residents could all get together in their new lounge. The space has been designed for residents to socialise, with a reading area and kitchen. From the lounge, residents can also make use of a garden terrace with planting and seating. We wish residents many happy years ahead in their new homes.



The Lord Mayor of Westminster meets Daventry House residents as lunch is enjoyed.

A MOMENT TO REMEMBER

Residents heard speeches and shared photographs of two much loved Daventry House residents who recently passed. Jeffrey and Douglas will be deeply missed by family and friends.



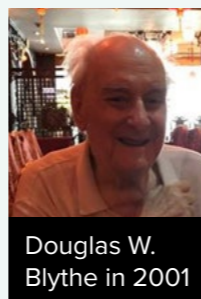
Jeffrey Simmons (1925-2023)

Closely involved in the Daventry House project from its beginnings, “**Jeffrey Simmons** was a truly special man, a gentleman of the old school. The way they just don’t make them anymore”, as he fondly was remembered at the lunch. He served in Naval Intelligence during WWII after having studied at Oxford University. For many years he was the Managing Director of a leading publishing house before he started working as a literary agent. This he did with true dedication and passion until the very end of his life.



Douglas W. Blythe in Reigate Grammar School Uniform in 1946

Douglas William Blythe, served as a young passionate aviator in the Royal Air Force as a Flight Lieutenant, before travelling the world in his later working life. His son, Mark, said his “passion for travel continued into his adult life including his hobby of philately”, commissioning first-day stamp covers while managing the Philatelic Bureaus of the World in the Gilbert and Ellis Islands (South Pacific) and Saint Lucia in the Caribbean.



Douglas W. Blythe in 2001

CHURCH STREET LIGHTS SWITCH ON FOR CHRISTMAS

Save the date for our annual Christmas lights switch on with the Deputy Lord Mayor. Enjoy arts and crafts with local community organisations, food and drink, live performances from Gateway School, Penfold Hub, South Westminster choir, and a performance from The Cockpit Theatre. Santa will also be there in his grotto, stop by to say hello!

Date: **Thursday 30 November**

Time: **4.30pm to 6.30pm**

Location: **Church Street Market on the Triangle (at the corner of Sailsbury Street)**

CHURCH STREET CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Switch on



Thursday 30 November, 4.30pm to 6.30pm on the Triangle on the corner of Church Street and Sailsbury Street.

Join us on the Triangle on Church Street to watch the annual Christmas lights switch on by the Deputy Lord Mayor of Westminster. Enjoy free festive activities from local organisations for all the family.

Official lights switch on at **5.30pm**



Christmas lights switch on by Deputy Lord Mayor at 5.30pm



Festive activities



Free food and drink



Visit Santa at his grotto



Live performance from South Westminster Choir and Penfold Hub Choir. Songs performed from 'Fairytale on Church Street' by The Cockpit Theatre



For more information, you can contact us via email at churchstreet@westminster.gov.uk or call us on 020 7641 2968



INTRODUCING CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE CHURCH STREET REGENERATION COMMUNITY GROUP (CSRCCG)

We spoke to our new Chair Reverend Clare Dowding, and Vice Chair Safira Afzal to find out a bit more about them and why they are passionate about being involved with the group.

Q1 Please tell us about yourself and why being involved in the regeneration is important to you?

CD As a parish priest and community worker I have been rooted in the Church Street community for over nine years, actively engaged in many different contexts and seeing positive change when people come together.

SA I have been a Westminster resident for over 25 years and I have followed the area’s regeneration programme since its inception. I would like to bring my knowledge of the social value aspect of the project, using recent experiences working with the Council in a responsible procurement process.

Q2 What is your vision for the Church Street Regeneration Group, what issues are important to you as Chair/Vice Chair?

CD As Chair of CSRCCG I want to make the group approachable and accessible, having the ability to advocate for the community and making sure a range of voices are heard not just at meetings but across the area.

SA The Westminster community is diverse. I would like to explore initiatives to build local leadership, support our young people, tackle isolation, promoting cohesion, wellbeing and supporting economic growth.

Q3 What would you like the CSRCCG to achieve?

CD The Church Street Regeneration Community Group will operate as an important voice within the ongoing Church Street Regeneration process. As a representative within the community, I am committed to the welfare and wellbeing of all those living locally.

SA I would like CSRCCG to see how it can influence initiatives which are bespoke, meaningful and improve the quality of life of the people who live and work in the area.

Once the regeneration has been completed I am passionate to see a legacy left behind for future generations that we can be proud of; especially modernising Church Street Market, which is the area’s unique selling point, attracting more visitors from across London.



Reverend Clare Dowding
Chair of CSRCCG



Safira Afzal
Vice chair of CSRCCG

SAVE LIFE’S PRECIOUS MOMENTS AT THE MEMORY LAB

The Memory Lab enables our communities to preserve their memories and bring them to life through the provision of an accessible service. By transferring old photographs to a USB storage device so that they can be easily used on current and future devices, you will be able to enjoy your treasured memories with family and friends over and over again.

Where: **Church Street Library**

When: **On now** and extended until the **16 January 2024**

Every Tuesday – 10am to 1pm

Every Thursday – 2pm to 5pm

For more information about the Memory Lab, visit the website at www.westminster.gov.uk/memory-lab

City of Westminster
DIGITAL WESTMINSTER

Converting old photos to digital files is an excellent way to preserve your family history for generations to come.

Saving life's precious moments, forever
Simply bring in your old photographs or newspaper cuttings to one of the drop-in sessions.
This free service is available from the Westminster Libraries and Archives and your photographs could become part of Westminster's history.

FREE
Drop-in sessions
NOW EXTENDED TO JANUARY 2024
Tuesday 10am - 1pm
Thursday 2pm - 5pm

Church Street Library
67 Church Street, NW8 8EU

Find out more:
www.westminster.gov.uk/memory-lab

CREATE AND MANAGE YOUR CAREER

W CC Employment team are hosting a series of FREE webinars to help you kick start your career. Each of the 4 webinars will be a different subject:

Tuesday 21 November, 10.30 to 11.30am – Finding and creating opportunities

Tuesday 28 November, 10.30 to 11.30am – Create a winning CV

Tuesday 5 November, 10.30 to 11.30am – Writing compelling statements

Tuesday 12 December, 10.30 to 11.30am – Successful interviewing

All the webinars are standalone sessions so you can attend them all or just the ones that suit your needs.

To book one or all of these FREE sessions, you can email sandrews@westminster.gov.uk or call **07951 430 196**



CHURCH STREET SHARE, REPAIR AND RECYCLE

Do you have an item that needs repairing or you want to recycle? Repair, reuse and Recycle are holding workshops on:

Friday 8 December, 10am to 1pm

Saturday 9 December, 2pm to 5pm

Location: **Fisherton Street Community Hall, Luton Street, Fisherton Estate, NW8 8LS**

For more information, you can email Churchstreet.repair@gmail.com or visit the website at: sites.google.com/view/churchstreetrepair

CAFÉ ON THE TRIANGLE

Take a look at the new café-to-be facility on the Church Street Triangle near Salisbury Street. This space, which is now ready for a fitout, will turn into a community café once an operator is appointed. We will continue to bring you further news on it's development over the coming months.



The refurbished building will host a new community cafe and public toilet facilities.

FIND OUT MORE

GO ONLINE

You can also keep track of the latest news on the Church Street website at churchstreet.org

IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION

Please email us at churchstreet@westminster.gov.uk

SPEAK IN PERSON

Contact us to talk a member of our Regeneration Team at **020 7641 2968**

You can also visit us at **Regeneration Base, 99 Church Street, NW8 8EY**. Open from Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.