

# NEWSLETTER

## Tube noise: the rumblings of change?

Are you bothered by deep rumbles below your house and even shaking walls as tube trains pass beneath? It isn't 'just something you have to put up with because you live in London' - come and tell TfL how you feel at a meeting in Albert Square this Monday

The noise and vibration from Victoria line tracks that run under Wilkinson Street and Albert Square have been a concern for many residents – and one that ASSA has raised in the past. Two years ago, staff from Metronet – who were then responsible for maintaining the track – came to a local residents' meeting to explain what they were doing to control the noise and vibration. They told us that 'grinding' of the track would help to cut down the nuisance

That grinding work finished this year - but many residents haven't noticed any improvements.

ASSA is holding a further meeting with representatives from TfL Underground (who took over the work following the collapse of Metronet) to report on developments, and to gather information on residents' experiences.

All residents affected by noise and vibration from the tube are welcome to attend this meeting on:

Monday 18 January, 8pm, 5 Albert Square

If you can't come along but wish to report your experiences, please email [assacan@assa.org.uk](mailto:assacan@assa.org.uk) or call Chris on 07971 198555

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## Clint Eastwood comes to the neighbourhood

Not quite a lone stranger riding into town on his horse, more of a superstar in a Winnebago with a huge film crew! Clint was here to direct his latest supernatural thriller, 'The Hereafter', and filmed interior and external scenes on the street. The film stars Matt Damon as a reluctant medium.

Previous filming in Albert Square has included Love Actually, The Bill, a number of commercials and Prime Suspect.

Continued overleaf...



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[WWW.ASSA.ORG.UK](http://WWW.ASSA.ORG.UK) - THE ASSA WEBSITE

Have you checked out the ASSA website? Local news, information, planning, events and photos. Updated regularly. To keep in touch with updates add [assa.org.uk](http://assa.org.uk) as an RSS feed.

## Clint Eastwood comes to the neighbourhood

Being a full on Hollywood movie there were lots of people and trucks involved, but a very efficient location team meant there was little disturbance or inconvenience.

The ASSA residents association coordinates closely with the location managers of each film to minimise the disruption caused by filming. If you have any problems with location filming teams please email [assacan@assa.org.uk](mailto:assacan@assa.org.uk)

The location team for 'The Hereafter' made a contribution of £500 to ASSA. This is a voluntary donation. For a number of years these donations have meant that ASSA have been in the position of not needing to charge residents for membership and has allowed ASSA to make contributions to local charities and causes in our neighbourhood.

We are currently looking for ideas on how to spend this money for the community - see below for more details

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## We need your ideas on how to spend ASSA community £s

As noted above, ASSA residents association is given money for location filming in the neighbourhood. Usually several hundred pounds. Some of this goes towards events like the Summer Fair (see article below on plans for this year's fair) and we donate money to local charities at the AGM every year.

We are calling for ideas on how to spend this money for the benefit of the neighbourhood. If you have an idea please, please contact us - its our responsibility to spend this money for things that will make this area a nicer place for you to live in.

### Some ideas

- Secure bicycle parking
- Free classes (yoga, salsa, knitting)
- Film club
- Plant trees in the streets
- MORE IDEAS FROM YOU!

email: [assacan@assa.org.uk](mailto:assacan@assa.org.uk)

Cost: in the range £250 - £1,000

All ideas will be voted on at the AGM held in June (or decided by the Committee if urgent).

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## Rubbish collections

Wilkinson street is the only street that generally has sufficient space for household bins to be situated discreetly in front of every house. The other streets have differing storage capacity and the large metal bins (Eurobins) are considered by Lambeth to be a solution and necessary for the area. This particularly for flats which may have limited ability to retain rubbish for a standard weekly collection.

Rubbish problems including flytipping, overflowing bins and the number of them currently situated on the North Eastern corner of such a lovely square make this an ongoing problem.

Lambeth Council will formally consult residents very shortly and are thinking of moving the

Eurobins to a dedicated spot on the road coming in from the A3.

If residents consider there is a need for bins closer to the streets on Aldebert and St Stephens then this is an opportunity to request additional bins closer to your homes.

We are aware that often the bins are filled with rubbish that could or should be recycled or collected separately. The Eurobins are not for fridges/TVs or bulky refuse which prematurely fill up the bins. Neither should rubbish be put next to the bins. This constitutes flytipping - its unsightly and illegal and can attract fines of up to £50,000. Please put any waste in the bins.

If you have bulky refuse, metal goods, fridges or freezers or Garden waste then Lambeth have a FREE collection service. Call 0207 926 9000 or email [streetcarecallcentre@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:streetcarecallcentre@lambeth.gov.uk)

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## Draughts Busted!

ASSA held a 'Draught Busting Day' at a house in Wilkinson Street on Saturday, November 21st from 10am to 1pm. It was open to all local residents.

A Draught Busting Day is an opportunity to learn how to make your Victorian/Edwardian house warm and cosy in time for the worst of winter.

On the day we had:

- Draught proofing kits for doors and sash windows that really work. Normally only available to trade but we sold them on the day (cost is approx £15 per sash window) and they can be fitted with a modicum of DIY skill
- Demonstrations on how to fit the draught-proofing to sash windows and doors



- Demonstrations of affordable, removable secondary glazing
- Samples of energy saving lightbulbs that actually work in our houses
- Contacts with local tradesmen who can help you carry out the work

We had around 40 people come to the event and helped about 15 houses draught proof themselves before the cold spell. If there's demand we'll hold another Draught Busting Day in March.

We have some draught proofing stock left if you want it. Email [assacan@assa.org.uk](mailto:assacan@assa.org.uk) or call Chris: 07971191555

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## One resident's trash is another's treasure

It seems everyone involved in the street sale on Saturday October 3rd, 10-1, had a great time. One resident summed it up very well:

"this neighbourhood event... was so much better than I expected:

- Cleared out lots of our own stuff
- Provided a site for lots of other stuff from neighbours to clear their stuff out
- Picked up a couple of bargains
- Felt proud to have found homes for so many highly unlikely objects (absolutely "trash as treasure!")
- Met lots of neighbours and passers by And made... [almost £70 for our] charity"

After 1pm, ASSA filled up two estate cars of clothes, books, CDs and electronics which we gave to the MIND charity shop on Wandsworth Road. Lambeth council came round to pick up the rest.

We will be holding the event again. Hopefully a few more people, perhaps a some food and drinks. Any thoughts, advice etc more than welcomed: mail to [assacan@assa.org.uk](mailto:assacan@assa.org.uk)

When: Saturday, March 20th 10am-1pm

Where: On your doorstep!



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### NEW TO THE AREA OR LIVED HERE FOR AGES?

Do you want to help planning events or maybe you've got great talents you could share through a community class? Maybe your passionate about something and want to start a local club. If you want to get involved or just get on our email list (we send about 1 email a month) contact Chris Morrison, Chair of ASSA on 07971 198555 or [assacan@assa.org.uk](mailto:assacan@assa.org.uk)

# Helpers and ideas wanted for the 2010 Albert Square Summer Fair

The Albert Square Summer Fair is in its third year this year and will be held on Saturday, June 12. Last year was a great success, we had over 600 people come along and raised £2,900 for local charities.

We would love to have some fresh faces to help organise the fair this year. We are looking for:

- General event organisation and marketing
- Artists to design the poster for the fair
- Volunteers to run stalls including toys, bric-a-brac, books, bottle, refreshments etc.
- Musicians to play during the evening picnic or other ideas for entertainment (a local X-Factor? a play?)
- Fund raisers

Please contact Chris on 07971 198555 or [assacan@assa.org.uk](mailto:assacan@assa.org.uk)



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## No room at the top

If you live in a flat on the first, second or third floor of one of our local houses you might not find it so easy to order or replace large items of furniture or consumer goods, if some of the major suppliers have their way. According to Currys, they no longer deliver bulky items more than 13 steps up from the ground due to 'health and safety' ('and our insurers won't let us in case we get sued') – and that

all major suppliers are following suit. The 'ban' would also affect the removal/replacement of energy inefficient white goods for the latest A+ rated models.

If you have been affected by this policy – or are concerned about it would mean for you – please contact us so that we can gather information to mount a campaign for safe but fair consumer rights for upper floor dwellers; email Brenda on: [brenda@bskirsch.demon.co.uk](mailto:brenda@bskirsch.demon.co.uk) or call: 07908 654735

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## What is ASSA?

The conservation area of Albert Square, Wilkinson Street, St Stephen's Terrace and Aldebert Terrace is a special place to live. We're working to keep it that way.

Albert Square and St Stephen's Association – ASSA – was revived in 1980 to represent the interests of all those who live in the conservation area made up of Albert Square and the neighbouring streets of Aldebert Terrace, Wilkinson Street and St Stephen's Terrace, and the houses on Clapham Road that back on to the Square.

ASSA aims to preserve the unique character of our area, and enhance the quality of life of all who live there.

ASSA works hard to preserve the best of the past, enhance the quality of life for today's residents, and ensure that future generations can benefit from the best possible environment.

THIS NEWSLETTER IS PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE ALBERT SQUARE AND ST STEPHEN'S ASSOCIATION (ASSA)