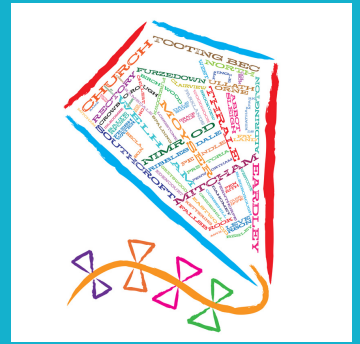


ISSUE 3, OCTOBER 2022

FURZEDOWN COMMUNITY NETWORK MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER



WELCOME

Dear FCN Members,

What a summer we have had; so hot and dry, but the FCN were happy to be back organising activities and meeting people in person.

The Picnic in the Park was a great success and we were pleased to ensure everything was free so families facing harder times could participate fully. We hope to put on a mixture of free and paid for events in our annual calendar, in order to enable as many people as possible to join in.

The FCN have also supported the local arts project 'Festival of the Dead' with help processing their funding, and using local expertise and contacts to ensure events are local to Furzedown and accessible to local people.

I hope you will support our next quiz night – November 12th, the proceeds of which will go to the Foodbank, and come to our Christmas lights 'switch-on' on Mitcham Lane on Friday 9th December.

Sarah Forester
Nimrod Road Resident and FCN Chair

We would be glad to hear any comments on the above ideas: we are also looking for more ideas so if you think of something you'd like to share to make Furzedown even more fabulous, email us with the details - info@furzedown.net.

The 2022 FCN committee is:

Officers: Chair – Sarah Forester, Vice Chair – Steffi Backhouse

Treasurer – Hannah Wallden, Secretary – Peter Ramell

Members: Léonie Cooper, Judi Gasser, Anna Godsiff, Monika Ivanova, Anthony Langan, Lynn Selwyn-Reeves, Angie Stephenson (Membership Secretary), Dawn Thomas, Neha Sekar, Jo Town and Adam Seymour-Davis

KEY DATES AND EVENTS

**FCN COMMITTEE
MEETING:**
23RD NOVEMBER
7.30PM AT
THE FURZEDOWN PROJECT,
MOYSER ROAD

QUIZ NIGHT
12TH NOVEMBER
MITCHAM LANE BAPTIST
CHURCH HALL
(ENTRANCE ON WELHAM
ROAD)

**CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS
SWITCH-ON**
9TH DECEMBER, 3-5.30PM
THRALE ROAD / MITCHAM
LANE

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FURZEDOWN COMMUNITY NETWORK

Spotlight on... DENISE AND BOB BROAD by Dawn Thomas

Interview with Denise and Bob Broad – long term Furzedown residents, who over many years have brought lots of music and joy to our community. Dawn caught up with Denise and Bob at their home.

How long have you lived in Furzedown?

Denise - I moved here in 1977 and Bob arrived the year before in 1976. We were both working in Wandsworth at that time, so not only did we fall in love with each other but with Furzedown itself.

Bob - we moved into our current home in 1997 having both previously live on Nimrod Road.

Denise – I cried when I left Nimrod Road, I really enjoyed living there.

You are both well known for you love of music and singing but how did this come about?

Bob – I discovered a love of music through my parents. My Mum loved classical music and use to play a Harmonium and my dad loved Jazz, I also started singing in the church choir from about aged 8.

Denise – I'm a bit of a late developer to the world of music, I did sing in the school choir but I didn't really do much until a friend from Wales introduced me to a Community choir network , which inspired me to start the Great Gustos in 2003. The first session was in this very living room, although we probably weren't brilliant in those early days, we sang with great energy and enthusiasm, in other words, we sang with great gusto – hence the name!

What made you support Water aid?

Denise – my friend who inspired me to start Gustos bought this charity to my attention. Clean water is so vital for communities, so I started raising funds for Water Aid and over the last 20 years I have raised about £30,000.

Bob - I support and raise funds for the Furzedown Project and prostate cancer



FURZEDOWN COMMUNITY NETWORK

What other hobbies apart from music and singing do you have?

Bob - I absolutely love cycling. I try and cycle for at least a couple of hours every day. I've taken part in lots of charity cycle rides, the furthest I've cycled is about 60 miles. The hardest cycle ride I've done was one of the Prudential cycle rides in the driving rain. I really enjoyed cycling around London during lockdown, it was great, a life saver and photographing London with very people about, was fantastic.

Denise - I do love gardening and recently I've taken up playing a brass instrument. I play in the Putney and Wandsworth Brass Band. I also just love doing events and activities in our local area that brings our community together. I think it's called Localism!

Who would say were your role models?

Denise - My Mum was my role model.

Bob - Yes I would say my Mum, she was a great organiser of people a bit similar to Denise.

What's the Best Gig you've ever been to?

Bob - I recall a Paul McCartney and Wings concert- great musicianship, it was fantastic.

Denise - Just Brian Wilson (no Beach Boys) at the Royal Festival Hall, it was a brilliant gig.

What current Bands do you like?

Bob - the B52s

Denise - still Brian Wilson

What are your guilty pleasures?

Denise - I love ice-cream day or night, I would even have it for breakfast! I'm also a really big Star Trek fan.

Bob - I love Baileys but not at breakfast time and a traditional Eccles cake.

What's your favourite TV show?

Denise - We both like 'Would I lie to you', 'Line of Duty' and 'Borgen' a Danish political drama.

Which Comedy double act do you prefer The Two Ronnies or Morecambe and Wise?

Bob - tricky because they are both excellent, I think the Two Ronnies.

Denise - yes I agree both brilliant but I think the Morecambe and Wise the Andre Previn sketch (link it <https://youtu.be/uMPEUCVjJsc>) its a brilliant piece of comedy.

What's your favourite local Restaurant?

Denise - we both love the eateries in Tooting Market and Lahore Karahi (Tooting High Street)



FURZEDOWN COMMUNITY NETWORK

COMMITTEE NEWS

We continue to meet monthly with a break in August. This summer we said goodbye to Annie McCall who had to step down. Annie has been very active and is best known for working stoically in the rain at one of the Christmas Markets on Moyser Road. Always willing and good humoured she will be missed.

We welcome Adam Seymour-Davies, who helped at the Picnic and was roped into joining the committee. Adam has always been a supporter of local community activities and brings his local knowledge both as an active member of St James Church and local estate agent.

We have strengthened links with the Furzedown Project, jointly funding both a publicly accessible defibrillator for Moyser Road and a First aid course for local volunteers.

The committee has also discussed increasing membership, support for local projects like Martin Beaver's war walk and the development of a small range of FCN branded merchandise which should be ready for Christmas.

We are keen to hear from local people about how FCN can enable local projects to come to fruition held our first open meeting in October, which was well attended with a lively discussion.

LOCAL PROJECTS THE FCN ARE SUPPORTING THIS YEAR

The Furzedown Community Network will be supporting or contributing to the following local projects this year:

- The St. George's Hospital Fundraising Children's Appeal £500
- Wandsworth Foodbank - proceeds from the FCN Quiz Night in November.
- The Gift from Furzedown Christmas Stocking Project £500
- Martin Beaver's World War II War Memorial Map design and printing costs £825
- Defibrillator - in partnership with The Furzedown Project, the FCN are contributing £800 towards the cost of a defibrillator to be located outside the Furzedown Project, and First Aid Training for 12 people.

THE ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL CHILDREN'S FUNDRAISING APPEAL

With a contribution of £500, the FCN will be encouraging other local organisations to raise money for this cause in 2023.

JUST FOR
FUN...

ANAGRAM
(ANSWER
ON
PAGE 10)

IMPACT
MICHAEL

HISTORY - World War 2 and Furzedown

A brief insight as to how Furzedown was impacted by the World War 2 by local History enthusiast Martin Beaver.

In Furzedown we currently have a public war memorial on the back wall of St James' church in Welham Road which commemorates the local servicemen (all men) killed in the First World War. Many Furzedown civilians were also killed in the Second World War. 43 civilians were killed, 60% were women and girls. Most were killed in the summer of 1944 by V1 flying bombs but there is no memorial to them. I hope to change that!

Some interesting facts and figures:

The whole of Furzedown was significantly affected in the summer of 1944 by the 13 V1 bombs that landed here. The most lethal bomb was in Pendle Road, which killed 12 people. The most destructive was in Penrith Street damaging almost 1,700 houses. The saddest stories were on Thrale and Southcroft Roads. The biggest changes as a result were in Aldrington Road.

Almost 90% of the houses in Furzedown were impacted to one extent or another.

This July and August, on the anniversaries of two of the worst losses of life, I led walks around some of the sites as part of a campaign to create a memorial for Furzedown's civilian dead.

FCN is sponsoring a fold out poster/brochure about the bombing campaign that is based on these two walks and will enable anyone to do their own walks and see what happened, where and when.

A walker's perspective:

It was fascinating walking around the east side of Furzedown with Martin explaining that groups of houses were so distinct from others because they were built on bomb sites. His in-depth research and knowledge was evident in the detail he had to hand about the local residents who were affected, which interestingly included refugees.

At one point on Thrale Road near Faylands Avenue he was telling us that a mother and her child in a pram were killed in an attack, just as a mother with a buggy passed us by. It stopped Martin in his tracks, as if history had given us a glimpse of how in the blink of an eye two people lost their lives as they went about their daily life.

I hope a memorial is built in the community to remember these families and those they lost. It could have been any one of us in those frightening days of conflict.





FURZEDOWN COMMUNITY NETWORK

FCN EVENTS SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER

JAZZ ON THE LAWN

Another lovely sunny afternoon in the charming setting of Streatham Bowls club on Sunday 12th September, we came together for music, food and company.

Over 300 people enjoyed a brilliant set by South London Jazz Orchestra (joined this year by local Bob Broad on keyboard) and with a special unexpected spot by Georgie Fellows, who happened to be in the audience.

FCN barbecue queen Jo Baxter and her able helpers Kathy and Rachel kept going all afternoon and tea and cakes from Angie and her team were delicious.

We were delighted that money raised from this event enable us to donate £500 each to the St George's Hospital Children's Appeal and to local group Gift From Furzedown which will give stockings to local families in need again this Christmas.





FURZEDOWN COMMUNITY NETWORK

FCN EVENTS SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER

PICNIC IN THE PARK

Weather was lovely and sunny, the gazebos were up and the face painters ready to go. The Furzedown Community Network (FCN) and The Friends of Furzedown Rec (FoFR) hosted a joint family event at the Pavilion and Bowling Green on Saturday 20th August.

This family picnic event was the first event since Covid that the FCN has held on the Rec. To ensure we had broad appeal across our community, it was a totally free event for families and their children.

With over 250 people attending, it was great to see the community out socialising. The Face Painters, Henna and Glitter tattoos artists were busy from the get-go creating lovely designs on the children's faces. We had lots of funny, lively, magical entertainment from the Ministry of Giggles and the families had the opportunity to do some African drumming. There was sand and water play for the younger children, plus a small selection of games.

There were free refreshments including watermelon, a lovely healthy treat which everyone enjoyed.

All in all a lovely secure, family friendly free event which due to the great feedback we got from those who came, we may run again next year.

Anna Lubinska – who started family picnics on the Rec over 20 years ago (pictured below), was pleased that her original idea was still happening today.



FURZEDOWN COMMUNITY NETWORK

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Lots to look forward to in and around Furzedown in the coming weeks leading up to Christmas.

GIFT FROM FURZEDOWN CHRISTMAS STOCKING PROJECT

Set up in 2020 during the Pandemic, the Gift from Furzedown Team continue to fundraise to provide 300+ Christmas Stockings for families in need within our local community.

If you would like to make a donation, gifts can be dropped into Aspire Estate Agents on Moyser Road up to mid November or financial contributions can be given via this link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/agiftfromfurzedown>

Alternatively, email giftfromfurzedown@gmail.com or follow them on Facebook or instagram for more information - @giftfromfurzedown

PENWORTHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL FARMERS' MARKET

Come and visit us at the FCN stall at the the Penwortham Primary School Farmers' Market on Saturday 5th November. Join up your quiz team or view our new FCN branded mugs and tea towels.

SPROUT ARTS CHRISTMAS MARKET

Supporting more than 25 local small independent businesses, designers and craftspeople, our local volunteer run community art space on Moyser Road, will host its 13th Christmas Market this year.

Open every day from from 3rd to 23rd December from 9am - 6pm. With a huge range of beautiful gifts and treats, if you like to shop local and support local businesses, this is the place to go!

**A GIFT FROM FURZEDOWN
CHRISTMAS STOCKING APPEAL**

Please help us to fill 300+ Christmas stockings to give to local children who might otherwise go without this Christmas

DONATIONS VERY WELCOME

DONATIONS MAY BE LEFT WITH ASPIRE ESTATE AGENTS ON MOYSER ROAD (SEE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR IDEAS) OR EMAIL GIFTFROMFURZEDOWN@GMAIL.COM TO ARRANGE AN ALTERNATIVE DROP-OFF OR A COLLECTION

Kindly supported by:
AC Penwortham Art Studio Aspire

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM & FACEBOOK
[@GIFTFROMFURZEDOWN](https://www.instagram.com/giftfromfurzedown)



**SPROUT ARTS
Christmas Market**

3rd - 23rd December 2022

gifts & treats
from more than 25 local designers,
artists & independents

74 Moyser Road, Furzedown, London SW16 6SQ
www.sproutarts.com
[@sprout_arts_london](https://www.instagram.com/sprout_arts_london) [@sproutarts](https://www.facebook.com/sproutarts)
email: sproutcommunityarts@gmail.com



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UPCOMING FCN EVENTS

QUIZ NIGHT

Our Quiz Night returns on Saturday 12th November in Mitcham Lane Baptist Church Hall on Welham Road.

Tickets are £5 for FCN members and £6 for non-members.

Maximum table size 8.

Email events@furzedown.net to book your tickets.

All money raised will go to the Wandsworth Foodbank. You are welcome to bring your own drinks and snacks. We will be raffling a fantastic hamper of local goods and treats kindly donated by local businesses (thank you to Good Sorts, Rhonda Gregory, Urban Wine and Furzedown Art Studio) as well as our usual bottle raffle and we would love you to bring a NEW covered water bottle to donate to the Foodbank too if possible.



PRIZE DRAW - Each quarter, all current members will be entered into a prize draw. The winner of 2 tickets to the November Quiz Night has been notified.

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS SWITCH ON

Every year we sponsor a Christmas Tree for Furzedown. This year the Christmas Tree Lights 'Switch-on' is on 9th December at 4pm on the corner of Thrale Road and Mitcham Lane. Join us from 3-5.30pm for singing, free hot chocolate, mince pies and children's activities. The lights will be switched on at 4pm by the Mayor of Wandsworth



THE FURZEDOWN PUB - Accessibility Update

We are happy to announce that the Furzedown Pub now has an intercom system, allowing those with accessibility issues to go to the pub independently.

The intercom links to the pub bar so they can see who needs access and will come and let you in. A sign will soon be put up letting anyone needing access know to buzz the intercom, but we are pleased it has now been installed.

Thanks to Vito for pressing the Pub to install the intercom, there has already been one positive outcome. Jess McNair (see pic) told Dawn she is really pleased to be able to go to the pub whenever she chooses now without having to rely on someone to take her.



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FURZEDOWN COMMUNITY NETWORK

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS - DISCOUNTS OFFERED BY SOME OF OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

The following local businesses are proud to support the Furzedown Community Network membership scheme by offering a discount to FCN members.

Contact them directly or see our website for information on discounts offered - www.furzedown.net

Chemists:

Bradbury Chemist, Moyser Road
Fairoak, Mitcham Lane
Pearl Chemist, Tooting

Food:

Cafe de Niro, Moyser Road
Mitcham's Plaice, Mitcham Lane
Naked Loaf Pizza, Moyser Road
Traditional Fish Bar, Mitcham Lane

Florist:

Clarkes Florist, Moyser Road 020 8677 0593

Music & Dance:

Dom Brown Guitar - 07801 234 399
www.DomBrown.com
Metamorphosis Dance Company -
metamorphosis.dnc@gmail.com

Art & Photography:

Furzedown Art Studio - 07946 255274
info@furzedownartstudio.co.uk
K&K Stationers, Tooting - 020 8767 2398

Estate Agents:

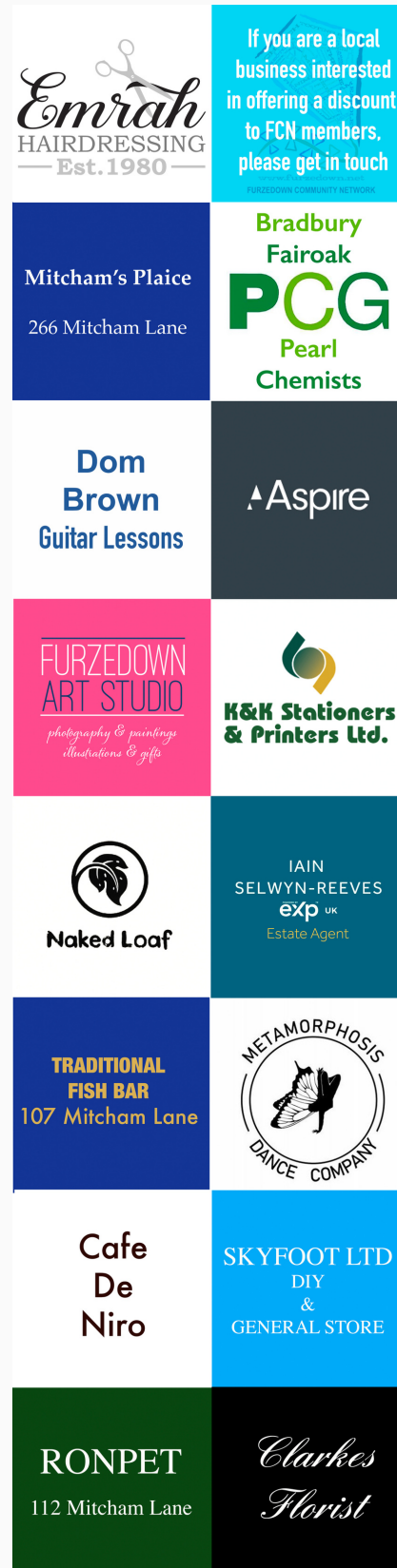
Aspire Estate Agent - 020 8769 7900
www.aspire.co.uk
Iain Selwyn-Reeves Estate Agent - 07766 081462
www.ISRBespoke.co.uk

Hair & Beauty:

Emrah Hairdressing, Moyser Road 0208 769 8692

Miscellaneous:

Ronpet, Mitcham Lane - 0208 769 6532
Skyfoot DIY & General, Mitcham Lane - 07404 204554



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