

GREAT 'EGGS-PECTATIONS'

Yolk has established a cult following over the years; discover for yourself why diners find the cracking menu so incredibly enticing Page 13



PACKING A REAL
BXR London is bou
at its very best, but
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into the ring Page 20

CITY MAT

06 - 19 March 2019 The City's **SOCIAL ENTERPRISE** newspaper with **30,000 READERS**

Road illusion may save lives

CITY CORPORATION HAS DESIGNS ON IMPROVING SAFETY AT 'DANGEROUS' LUDGATE CIRCUS JUNCTION

CITY leaders have asked whether the "dangerous" Ludgate Circus junction could benefit from a 3D zebra crossing designed to force drivers to slow down, writes Talia Shadwell, Local Democracy Reporter.

Interest came after Westminster City Council became the first authority in the UK to try out the optical illusion.

The feature at the junction of High Street and Wellington Place in St John's Wood is located only minutes from The Beatles' famed Abbey Road crossing.

Floating

Its design gives the appearance of a raised road, creating the illusion that pedestrians are floating across whichever side drivers approach it from.

The illusion is meant to catch drivers' attention, encouraging them to slow down so pedestrians can cross safely.

It is being trialled in Westminster after a joint campaign by nearby Barrow Road Junior School, NW8

Mums, and the St John's Wood Society lobbied the council over "too fast" 20mph local limits.

The crossing has since piqued City planning interest as the Corporation pushes towards a goal of ending road deaths and casualties in the Square Mile.

Bank Junction's pedestrian injuries have reduced drastically since leaders voted to close it to all traffic except bikes and buses after a cyclist was hit and killed by a lorry in 2015.

However, councillors have in recent months been voicing worries that nearby Ludgate Circus, a busy junction between Fleet Street and St Paul's Cathedral, presents a renewed risk.

The focus had been on pedestrian and cyclist behaviour at the junction, with the City of London asking Transport for London (TfL) to consider reconfiguring its layout and flow.

The notorious accident hotspot was the site of multiple cyclist deaths until a cycle superhighway diverted bike traffic away from it. But its accident



safety bid: the City wants to copy Westminster's design

blackspot status remains a concern.

In October 2017 a pedestrian died after a collision with a van at the spot.

An 85-year-old was also seriously injured after being hit by a heavy goods vehicle two months later.

Recent surveys by the Corporation found many pedestrians were crossing the junction while staring

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AFTER TOUGH START TO 2019 FIND THE GOLDEN LINING WITH THE BAGGERS

BILLY'S PATCH:

Our man in Golden Lane, Billy Mann, is calling on his neighbours to get a little more friendly with one of the estate's most successful resident-led projects



THE Golden Baggers AGM always raises the bar in the dull-but-necessary meeting category.

The homemade cake on offer is superb (this year a yummy ginger parkin), making it a truly pleasurable way to start planning for the growing season ahead.

The allotment project is now in its ninth year, yet the energy and enthusiasm for progress never flags.

The scheme is based around 42 wooden planters (it started as one-tonne builders' bags, hence the name Baggers), which residents can rent for an annual subscription of £20 ('Friends' can join for £5).

Membership is open to all residents, experts or beginners, and on the first Sunday of every month they share more scrumptious home baking at their Social Sunday events.

I was especially disappointed this year to learn that one of our Hatfield House residents and veteran Bagger has gone to live in America.

Development

He was always very generous in sharing his showstopping tomatoes, so I never needed to grow any of my own.

Key issues at this year's AGM were the election of a new chair and the agreement of a new constitution, the need to attract more 'Friends' and to promote the project's core community values.

We also discussed the failed attempt to save the trees that border the allotment, which will soon disappear as part of the development of the former Richard Cloudesley School, and suggested locations for this year's annual outing.

Last year's trip to Turn End house and gardens in Buckinghamshire will be hard to beat. Anyone wanting to join should write to goldenbaggers@gmail.com.

The Golden Baggers is clearly the most successful resident-led project on the estate and its example is proving influential, most obviously in the activities at our refurbished community centre. The Christmas Day tea party was a riot of festive fun and the recent jumble sale added to the feeling that residents revel in the chance to



home grown: plenty of tasty veg springs from the Golden Baggers allotments

do things together, preferably with cake included. Jumble sales are a great chance to hone your people-watching skills. One minute residents will be chatting amicably about family fortunes and local issues, the next they will be cutting a tough deal for that old teapot, holding out for the last 50p.

If anything can take the shine of this neighbourly bliss it is the clumsiness of the council. A number of residents met recently with housing chief Paul Murtagh, who arrived in a foul mood to explain and apologise for the City Corporation's stuttered response to a potentially deadly gas leak at the building site next to Basterfield House.

He'd hoped to make his task easier by fixing the meeting (two months after the event) as a drop-in rather than a full-throated Q&A grilling from the residents most affected.

Unfortunately, his plans went awry when some canny individuals promptly rearranged the set-up and started firing their questions. Mr Murtagh

looked more and more uncomfortable as the volleys of verbal shots whistled his way.

While admitting that the City Corporation had failed residents and was searching its soul for "lessons learned", he stuck to the script that the site work met with all existing laws and regulations.

He expressed this forcefully, but tripped slightly when it came to evacuation policy and revealed that, unlike almost every large building in the developed world, there are no emergency muster points or marshalling for the Golden Lane Estate.

On the day of the accident back in December it was residents, acting on advice from the gas board, who cobbled together a plan of action until the emergency services arrived to offer some leadership.

Confused residents eventually found a safe point at Prior Weston School, shaken and feeling sick.

Mr Murtagh told the meeting that the City Corporation's advice when faced with an

emergency is to sit tight, keep calm and carry on until help arrives.

Yes, even if, as has happened before, an unexploded wartime bomb is uncovered. It later emerged that the City Corporation is reviewing how it handles "events such as this one", but is unable to share or publicise the findings.

The Square Mile's emergency plan to swerve Brexit appears to have paid off with a hush-hush deal in Paris last month to make sure all the City's hedge funds and derivative thingies do not turn to dust at midnight on March 29.

The best revelation about this mysterious caper would be proof of my suspicion that the audacious plot was hatched not at the Bank of England but here on Golden Lane with the help of Bayer House resident and YouTube sensation Elly Space, whose infectious Europop anthem 'Cancel Brexit' is powerful enough to turn the tide of history.

If you're still in doubt search online and turn the volume up to 11.

Billy Mann lives in Basterfield House on the Golden Lane Estate. He is a teaching assistant, a City of London Community Builder, and blogs at scrapbookbilly.blogspot.com. Write to him at goldenlanegazette@gmail.com

Legal & public notices

Licensing Act 2003 Section 17
Application for a new Premises Licence
Notice is hereby given that Rocket Leisure Limited has applied to the City of London for a new premises licence to use premises at 20 Eastcheap, London, EC3M 1EB as more particularly set out on the plans attached to the application for the sale of alcohol, late night refreshment and regulated entertainment between the hours of 10.00 and 03.00 on the day following Monday to Saturday and 10.00 and midnight on Sundays (except Sundays before a Bank Holiday Monday when the hours will be the same as the rest of the week). A record of this application is held by the City of London and can be viewed by members of the public online by visiting www.cityoflondon.gov.uk or by appointment at the offices of City of London licensing authority, Walbrook Wharf, 78-83 Upper Thames Street, London EC4R 3TD. Any person wishing to make a representation in relation to this application must give notice in writing to the licensing authority at the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by 27th March 2019. The licensing authority must receive representations by the date given above. The licensing authority will have regard to any such representation when considering the application.
It is an offence, under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in or in connection with an application for premises licence and the maximum fine on being convicted of such an offence is £5000.
If you require further information about this application please write to Gareth.hughes@keystonelaw.co.uk
Dated 26th February 2019

Brainteasers ?

editorial@citymatters.london

sudoku

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			6	2				8
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							2	4
6							3	
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totaliser

LEVEL ONE	70	-30	÷4	+8	1/2 OF THIS	x3	-21	TIMES ITSELF	÷2	-3	ANSWER
LEVEL TWO	31	+18	÷7	+2	2/3 OF THIS	TIMES ITSELF	+42	+12	÷10	x5	ANSWER
LEVEL THREE	124	-43	✓ OF THIS	-3	x16	+169	50% OF THIS	+17.5	÷3	TIMES ITSELF	ANSWER

whose line is it anyway?

"I'm already pregnant. So, what other shenanigans could I get myself into?"

actor & character:
movie:



Popular kids story
Green Eggs and
Ham started was
written as a bet

TRUE/FALSE