

DESIGN!

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW SHERIDAN CLUB • ISSUE 108 OCTOBER 2015

The Japanese invasion of America

Tim Eyre tells the true story from World War II

Hollywood, wouldn't she?

Roy Engoron's special Film Night talk and screening on the movie studio system and its strange links to 19th-century Britain

The real McNeil

"Chuckles" Younghusband reveals all in the Brogues Gallery

CURIOUSER
&
CURIOUSER

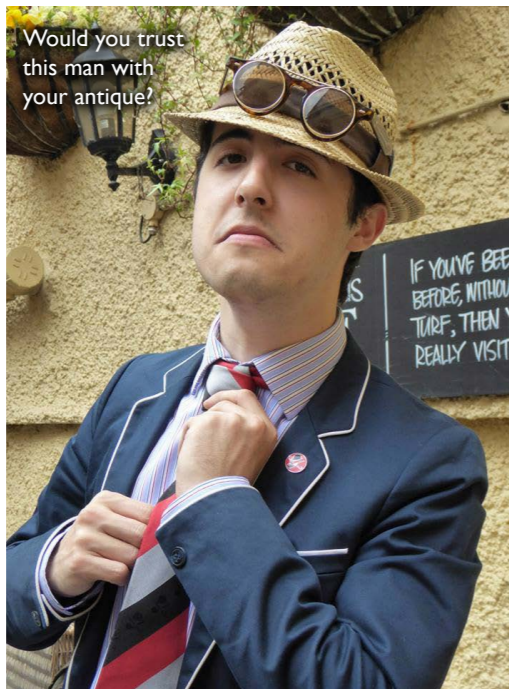
Christmas party unveiled



The New Sheridan Club traditionally meets in the upstairs room of The Wheatsheaf, just off Oxford Street. The Wheatsheaf is one of Fitzrovia's historic pubs, a one-time haunt of Dylan Thomas, George Orwell, Augustus John and Julian Maclaren-Ross. In fact Thomas met his wife Caitlin in The Wheatsheaf and, legend has it, he was known to flash at women there as well. Fitzrovia's associations with literature go back to the eighteenth century. In the twentieth century both Woolf and Shaw lived in Fitzroy Square; Pound and Lewis launched *Blast!* at the Restaurant de la Tour Eiffel in Percy Street. John Buchan lived in Portland Place and in *The Thirty-Nine Steps* Richard Hannay has a flat there. Both Lawrences (D.H. and T.E.) took rooms there, as did Aleister Crowley, Wilfred Owen, Rupert Brooke and Katherine Mansfield.

The Next Meeting

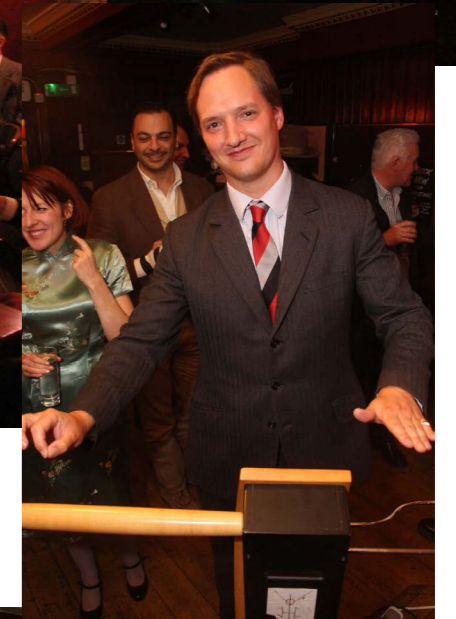
The next Club Meeting will take place on Wednesday 7th October in the upstairs room at The Wheatsheaf, 25 Rathbone Place, London W1T 1JB, from 7pm until 11pm. At what will, coincidentally, be the meeting marking the Club's ninth anniversary, Harrison Goldman will share his expertise in antiques, vintage and junk, and will give examples from every room in a house of items to look out for. He will have several mystery items the purpose of which the audience can try and guess, and if you care to bring in vintage items of your own Harrison will be happy to offer advice about them.



The Last Meeting

Our speaker in September was Susi O'Neill, a.k.a. Ms Hypnotique, who is officially Britain's third greatest exponent of the theremin, the world's first electronic, instrument, invented by Leon Theremin in 1920. It is played by moving one's hands within an invisible field around two aerials and it produces eerie keening noises that many will be familiar with from the soundtracks to certain 1930s and

1950s horror and sci-fi movies, such as *Spellbound* and *The Day the Earth Stood Still*. Theremin himself was championed by Lenin, who saw this futuristic instrument as a symbol of Soviet progressiveness, and Theremin was allowed to tour the US promoting it. His lifestyle of hanging out with avant-garde musicians and wealthy socialites must eventually have ruffled some feathers, as he was suddenly recalled to the east, where Stalin packed him off to a gulag; he managed to escape that in the end when he used his natural ingenuity to come up with an improved system for organising the trains in the gulag, and the KGB took an interest in him. (In fact he had invented a number of other things, like an alarm system and a wireless covert listening device.) Ms Hypnotique also regaled us with tales of the interesting places her theremin has taken her, including the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square (where she discovered there was no power supply—without which a theremin can make no sound) and *Britain's Got Talent*. Many thanks to Susi for struggling in with the instrument and associated equipment.



(Clockwise from top left) Scarheart holds forth in the corridor; you can't see it but he has actually grown a moustache; Susi performs at the theremin; Robert Beckwith has a go; Ed Marlowe sports a splendid tie; Susi uses Glen as a guinea pig to show how the theremin works; Curé Michael Silver inspects the latest edition of *Resign!*; Susi addresses the rapt audience



YELLOW PERIL!

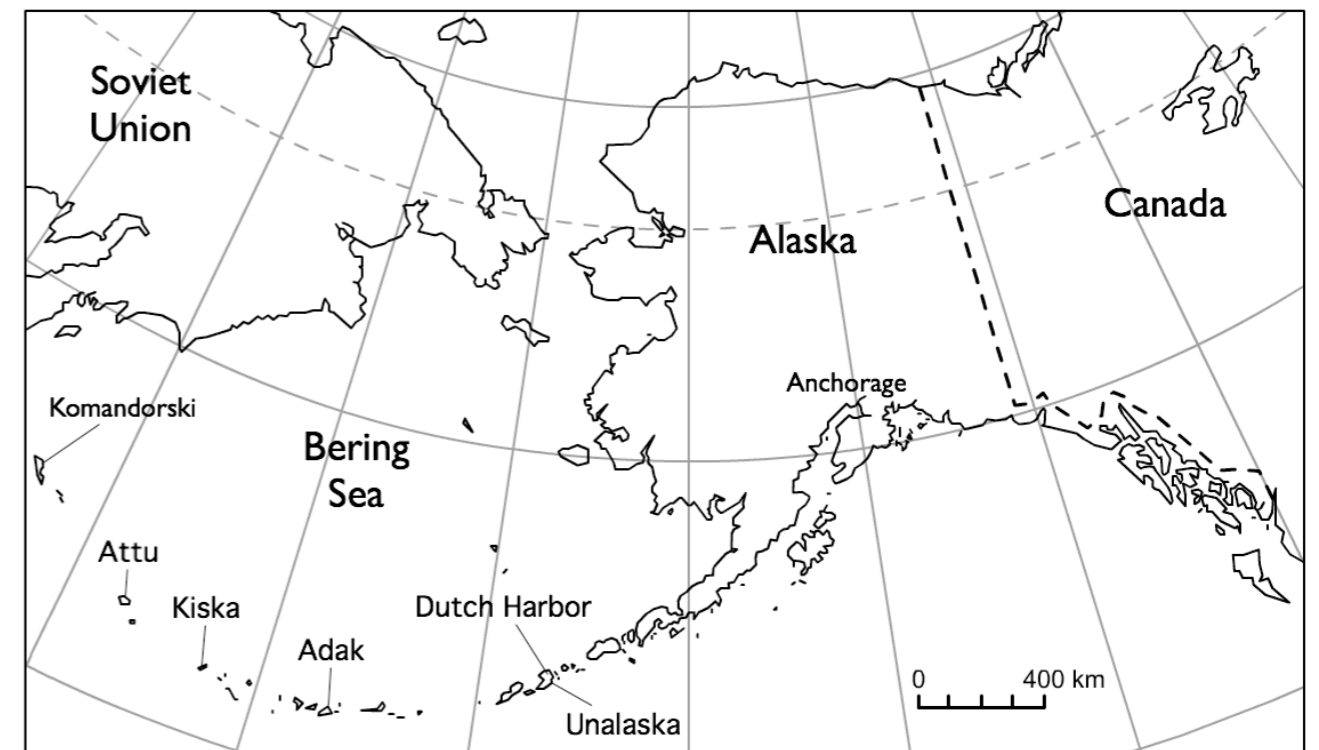
Dr Timoth Eyre reveals the little-known incident from World War II when Japan actually invaded America

WHAT? WHEN DID Japan invade the USA? Surely this is a reference to some dystopian science fiction graphic novel, or perhaps a metaphor for Japan's industrial successes in the 1980s? No, not a bit of it. In the Second World War Japan successfully occupied American territory. To be sure, Japan only occupied a small and remote part of America: unsurprisingly Japanese troops were never seen marching over the prairies of Kansas and the Rising Sun flag never flew from the White House. However, occupy American territory they did.

The territory in question was the Aleutian Islands. This chain of some 300 islands extends 1,200 miles west from the panhandle of Alaska. This chain terminates well over the International Dateline and only five hundred miles east of Kamchatka. The

islands are volcanic, being in the northern part of the Pacific Ring of Fire. Their indigenous population are known as Aleuts, who lived there for thousands of years before being almost wiped out by outside contact starting in the 19th century. The latitude of the islands covers a range similar to that of northern England, but their climate and terrain are far less hospitable. The Aleutians experience almost constant fog and average annual temperatures are barely above freezing. The terrain is mostly tundra. These harsh conditions were to be of crucial importance in the military action seen in the Aleutians in the Second World War.

The Aleutians were seen as highly strategic by both Japan and the United States. Control of the Aleutians permitted control of the Great Circle routes over the Pacific. As such, Japan saw control of



the Aleutians as a way of preventing American attacks on Japan across the North Pacific. Control of the Aleutians would also create a barrier between the US and the USSR should the latter join the war against Japan. In turn, the United States was concerned that Japan could use the Aleutians as a base to launch attacks on the American West Coast. The strategic importance of the Aleutians at that time can be gauged from the statement of General Billy Mitchell to the US Congress in 1935, "I believe that in the future, whoever holds Alaska will hold the world."

Japanese action against the Aleutians started on 3rd June 1942, six months after the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. A fleet of ships under the command of Vice Admiral Boshiro Hosogaya launched a bombing attack on the American naval base at Dutch Harbor in the Aleutian's largest city of Unalaska on the island of Amaknak. The bombers were launched from two aircraft carriers under the cover of bad weather. The attack was largely foiled by the fog, darkness, stiff anti-aircraft fire and the 11th Air Force fighters sent from an air base on the neighbouring island of Umnak. The heaviest casualties came when bombs hit barracks at the adjacent army post of Fort Mears, killing 25 men.

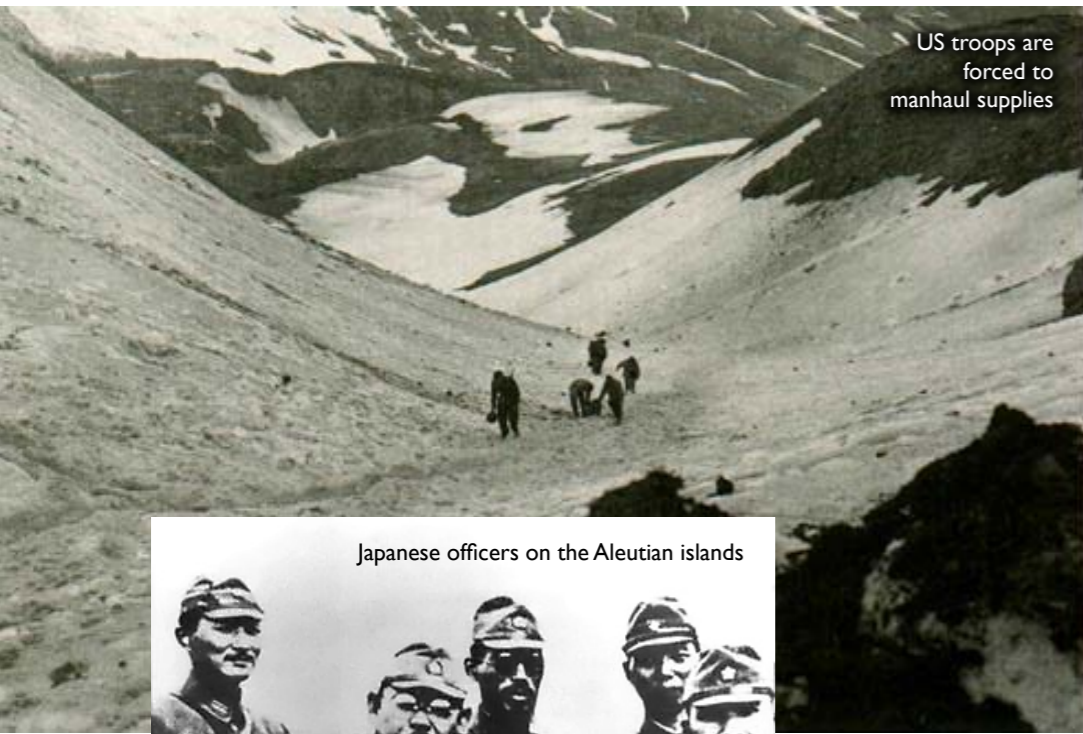
The next day the Japanese forces made another attack on Dutch Harbour and caused

more damage, destroying grounded aircraft, moored merchant ships, barracks, oil tanks and a wing of a hospital. American pilots located the Japanese aircraft carriers but failed to sink them. On the same day the Japanese forces had intended to invade the Aleutian island of Adak, 400 miles to the west, but foul weather forced them to cancel the attempt.

However, on 6th June Japanese forces invaded the island of Kiska and on 7th June they took the island of Attu. Attu is the westernmost island in the Aleutians and so the closest to the Japanese archipelago. Kiska lies a hundred miles or so further east. By this time, most of the native Aleuts had been forcibly evacuated from the Aleutians and interned on



A native Aleut and her child on the island of Attu in 1941



US troops are forced to manhaul supplies



Japanese officers on the Aleutian islands

Americans. Five of the inhabitants were killed when 1,100 Japanese soldiers stormed ashore at Attu and the remaining 42 were taken to a prison camp in Japan where 16 of them died.

This was the sum total of the Japanese invasion of the United States of America: 452 square miles of remote and frozen territory in the North Pacific, split across two islands. To give an idea of scale, the area of the occupied territory was about double that of the

Isle of Man and about one hundredth of one percentage point of the total area of the United States. Be that as it may, the occupation was a major propaganda opportunity for Japan and had a damaging effect on American morale. At this point in the war the Axis advances were at their zenith: Singapore had already fallen, Germany had advanced deep into Russia and even Australia was under threat. It seemed to some that democracy was on the ropes.

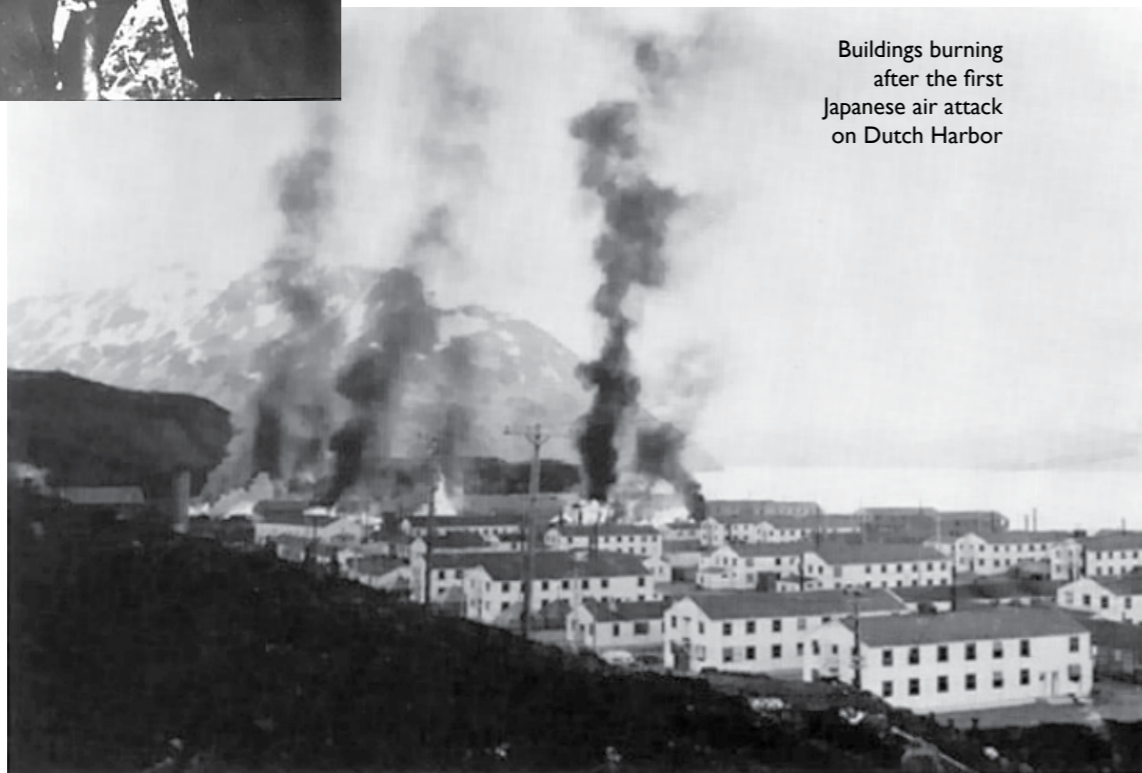


Ships assembling for the re-taking of the island of Kiska. When they arrived they found the Japanese had already left

Fortunately this state of affairs did not last long. Second World War buffs will recognise the dates of the Japanese attacks on the Aleutians, for they exactly match the dates of the much better known Battle of Midway. Indeed, the Aleutian campaign was prosecuted under the overall command of Isoroku Yamamoto, who also directed the Midway attack. Some historians consider the attack on the Aleutians to have been an attempt to divert American forces from the more southerly battle. If that was the case then it failed badly because there were barely any American forces in the Aleutians whereas America's decisive victory at Midway was the turning point of the war in the Pacific.

when a submarine called USS *Growler* sank one Japanese destroyer and severely damaged two others in Kiska Harbour. By September 1942 the US had established an air base on the island of Adak, which is situated 450 miles to the east. From here the US launched bombing raids against Japanese ships. A more significant engagement came on 27th March 1943 when a US Navy force of six ships by chance encountered a better-armed Japanese supply convoy on its way to garrisons on the Aleutian Islands. This naval battle is known as the Battle of the Komandorski Islands and was inconclusive in terms of losses but resulted in the

mainland Alaska. Therefore Kiska's population consisted of a military weather station with ten men and a dog. They were hopelessly outnumbered by the 500 Japanese marines conducting the invasion. Attu had not yet been evacuated and remained inhabited by 45 native Aleuts and two other



Buildings burning after the first Japanese air attack on Dutch Harbor

The harsh conditions and remoteness of Attu and Kiska combined with their questionable military importance meant that nearly a year passed before the Allied forces dislodged the Japanese occupiers. The first US action came just a month after the invasion



The USS Salt Lake City under attack during the Battle of the Komandorski Islands

Japanese supplying their troops in the Aleutians only by submarine.

It was on 11th May 1943 that a force of 15,000 American infantry landed on Attu in Operation Landcrab. They met little resistance at first but soon found that the Japanese troops were well entrenched on the higher ground, were better acclimatised to the Arctic climate and fought ferociously. Furthermore, the military planners had underestimated the challenge presented by the terrain, weather and enemy and so had only provided enough supplies for a few days; moreover, motorised vehicles could not operate on the tundra. As a result, the American soldiers found themselves short of food and equipment and suffered from frostbite, trench foot and gangrene. Nevertheless, by 29th May they had forced the remaining Japanese troops into a small pocket around Chichagof Harbor. With defeat certain, the Japanese troops conducted a fierce *banzai* charge, which penetrated deep through the American lines into rear-echelon units. The Japanese were exterminated in the ensuing battle; only 29 of the occupiers allowed themselves to be taken alive. In total, the Japanese lost around 2,850 men against 3,929 US casualties, many of which were caused by disease and severe cold.

Three months later on 15th August, an even bigger force of 34,426 troops landed to re-take Kiska. They included about 5,300 Canadian conscripts, who found themselves being sent into combat despite a pledge by the Canadian government not to send conscripts overseas. This could happen without breaking the promise because “overseas” was defined as “outside North America”. On arriving, the forces found that the Japanese had abandoned the island as indefensible two weeks earlier. Nevertheless, they suffered 313 casualties due to frostbite, disease, friendly fire and Japanese booby traps.



US troops negotiate snow and ice during the battle on Attu

This ejection of Japanese forces from American territory received relatively little attention at the time, perhaps because of the even more momentous events that occurred around the same time, including the Dambuster raids and the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. Today most people have never even heard of the Aleutians, let alone know that two of them were occupied by Japan for nearly a year. Perhaps the obscurity of this episode serves to illustrate what a vast and complex conflict the Second World War was.



American soldiers firing a mortar on Attu



The New Sheridan Club Christmas party

CURIOUSER & CURIOUSER

Saturday 28th November

7pm–midnight

The Tea House Theatre, 139 Vauxhall Walk, London SE11 5HL (020 7207 4585)

Admission: Free for Members, £5 for guests

Dress: Mad hatters, dormice, white rabbits, stoned caterpillars, animated playing cards, walruses, carpenters, stripey-stockinged nymphettes and laudanum-crazed Victorian clergymen

Celebrating the 150th anniversary of *Alice in Wonderland*, our party will feature silly games, the Christmas bran tub, snuff and our famous Grand Raffle (free entry but only to Members of the NSC, including anyone who joins up on the night). Appropriately for a mad hatter’s tea party, the venue is the Tea House Theatre, run by Members Grace and Harry. More details to come, but for now save the date.

THE BROGUES GALLERY

WITH ARTEMIS SCARHEART



In which a Member of the New Sheridan Club is asked to introduce themselves to other Members so that those at Home and Across the Seas may all get to know fellow Club Members. No part of this interview may be used in court or bankruptcy proceedings.



“Chuckles” Younghusband

“Doubt everything”

Name or preferred name?

“Chuckles” Younghusband

Why that nickname or nom de plume?

Partly in homage to the conqueror of Tibet, partly to throw vengeful former lovers off my trail.

Where do you hail from?

Born in St Thomas' Hospital, London, but spent the majority of my childhood in a Young Offenders Institution in Kendal. I eventually escaped to Manchester, which was a terrible mistake.

Favourite Cocktail?

The mojito, the recipe for which I still have written down in the notebook I used when observing them being made in La Bodeguita del Medio, Havana.

Most Chappist skill?

I have my pilot's licence and can fly aerobatics.

Most Chappist possession

A full set of Arthur Mee's *The Children's Encyclopaedia*.



Personal Motto?

De omnibus dubita—doubt everything.

Favourite Quotes?

“Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth.”

“Never try to eat anything bigger than your own head.”

Not a lot of people know about me, but...

I am a qualified lifeguard, and briefly worked as one.

How long have you been involved with the NSC?

I joined on my twenty-first birthday, so about eight years.

How did you hear about the Club to begin with?

I was press-ganged whilst out for a walk in Fitzrovia. I can't remember much.

What one thing would you recommend to fellow Members and why (cocktail, night out, tailor, watchmaker, public house, etc.)?

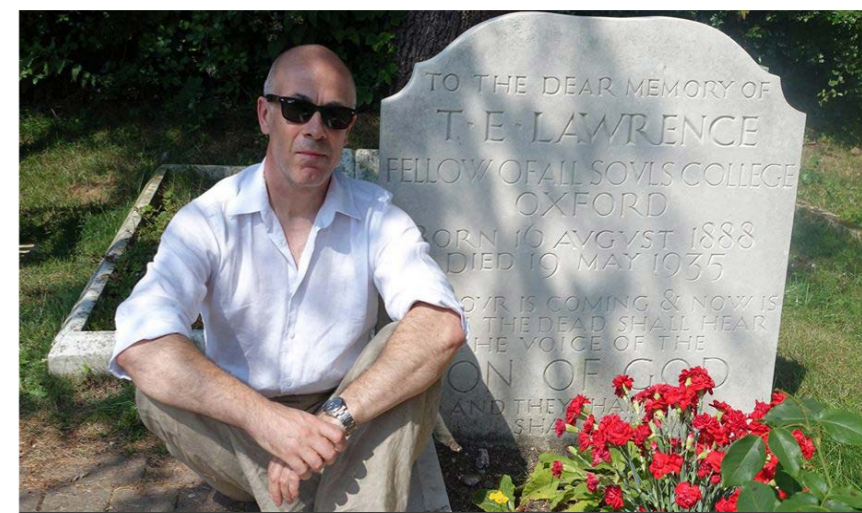
Swimming in the open-air ponds on Hampstead Heath bright and early on a summer's morning. Heaven.

Your three chosen dinner party guests from history or fiction and why?

Oooh...tricky. But I'll settle for Jesus, Liz I and Sir Richard Burton. I think the reasons for each are pretty obvious. Can I squeeze in Michelle Pfeiffer, too, if she sits on my knee?

Favourite Member of the Glorious Committee?

Artemis Scarheart.



Have you done a Turn yet? If so what was it on, if not what are you planning to do?

I have droned on about Burton (see above), the Nazi test-pilot Hanna Reitsch and some boxers whose names I cannot now remember.



THE GUNS OF NAVARONE

Craig Young explains his gung-ho choice of movie for the September Film Night

THERE IS A TIME for sensitive art house movies, and there is a time for a fast-paced flick with Nazis, espionage, explosions, scandal, daggers, Tommy guns, true blue British heroes, mysterious female agents and more explosions. Furthermore, any movie that features James Robertson Justice can't be all bad; and of all the films to support that maxim, I present you with *The Guns of Navarone*.

It is my contention that this is an all-time corker of a war movie; when I tell you that it is based on the novel of the same name by Alistair Maclean, you just know it's going to be high octane. Yup. Even for a movie that is 54 years old.

So, what happens? Well, a crack team of saboteurs is sent to disable a battery of radar-controlled super-guns on the fictional Greek island of Navarone, which are preventing the Royal Navy from rescuing 2,000 British troops trapped on the island of Keros. The plot is partially based on fact: the island of Leros did feature a battery of guns, among the largest used during the war, built by the Italians and occupied by the Germans from 1943. The

British did lose the Battle of Leros and managed to evacuate some of the defeated troops. The British and Commonwealth armies did indeed have numerous Special Ops personnel operating throughout the Mediterranean for much of the War.



Back to the movie; James Robertson Justice is the senior spook who drags Gregory Peck's character, Captain Keith Mallory, an expert mountaineer, off the island of Crete; Mallory's mission is to get the Special Ops team on to the island of Navarone, scaling a mighty cliff in order to land the men. Mallory is joined by seemingly invincible and implacable Greek Colonel and resistance fighter Andrea Stavros, played by, of course, Anthony Quinn. The mission leader, whose idea this whole whizz is, is Major Roy Franklin (Anthony Quale). David Niven is the barrack-room lawyer and explosives expert, Corporal Miller; his job is to lay the charges. Stanley Baker is Private Brown, an expert with a knife and a dab hand with Clyde-side ship's engines.

At the time of shooting, none of these

men was exactly the average age of a serving commando—and the relatively advanced age of the whole cast caused the UK press to nickname the film “Elderly Gang Goes Off to War”. Indeed when Niven fell ill after shooting an underwater scene and almost died, the whole film was nearly cancelled and the producer nearly called in the insurance money.

Stanley Baker said he was motivated to take his modest role because of the film's supposedly pacifist message, though Peck later lamented that few people seemed to notice. As the “Butcher of Barcelona”, Baker's character had fought for the Republicans in the Spanish Civil War, and producer and writer Carl Foreman had himself been a Communist in the 1930s (for which he was blacklisted by Hollywood). The film had resonances for others involved too: Anthony Quayle was a real major in the war, organising guerrillas in Albania. Niven had led Commando units and recce missions behind enemy lines, and appears in the film with the cap badge of his real regiment. His army pal Michael Trubshawe also appears in the film, in a splendid cravat, looking very much like one of the “Two Types” cartoon characters made flesh.

Location shooting was on the Greek island of Rhodes and Foreman persuaded the Greek military to lend him 12 destroyers and 1,000 soldiers. Members of the Greek Royal family visited the set and appeared as extras in the wedding feast scene.

In true thriller fashion, the agents are

besieged by numerous problems which threaten to scupper the mission, almost from the moment of departure. After despatching a German naval patrol boat whose crew somehow seems to know about their mission, things go from bad to worse when their boat founders on the rocks, vital supplies sink into the sea, the leader is badly injured and, although the party does make contact with the Greek Resistance, they are all captured and about to be tortured by the SS...

In essence, if you haven't seen this movie, I especially urge you to do. It is an absolute classic of the genre. Though, as a Kiwi type person, I might be biased—in the book Mallory is a New Zealander and expert mountaineer, based of course on Sir Edmund Hilary (who saw service in the RNZAF in the Pacific). I also believe that Mallory might be partly based on Captain Charles Upham, VC & Bar—yes, you read that right. Upham was the only combat soldier to win a Bar to his VC, and he was a hometown boy to boot. And Mallory may also be drawn from another NZ serviceman: Sergeant Dudley Perkins, codename “Vasili”, was not exactly famous, but as an SOE operative with his own band of partisans on occupied Crete he was a direct colleague and contemporary of the likes of Xan Fielding and Patrick Leigh Fermor. Right up until he was fatally ambushed, that is.

And there we have it. Popcorn duly munched. Explosions duly discharged. Nazis duly despatched. May I commend this film to the house.



NSC FILM NIGHT

Hollywood: The Dream Factory (1972)

Wednesday 14th October

7.30pm–11pm

The Tea House Theatre, 139 Vauxhall Walk, London SE11 5HL (020 7207 4585)

Admission: Free

Our October Film Night is a special event, as Member Roy Engoron has come over from California to spill the beans on his state's greatest export—Hollywood. First Roy will give us a talk, *Heroes, Villains, Damsels and Clowns: The Rise and Fall of the Hollywood Studio System*, then we'll see *Hollywood: The Dream Factory*, a 55-minute 1972 documentary,

For over 40 years, Hollywood has not only produced some of the most notable films ever, but it also became a model for film industries in other countries all over the globe. Over the course of the decades when the studio system was in place, it made billions of dollars for almost all involved. When we think of studios, we usually think of sound stages with lighting, sound equipment, props, costumes and, of course, actors. The Hollywood studios were

different. They were actually factories. Each of the majors even had their own police and fire departments. In the heyday of the studios, everything ran smoothly as it would on a well-oiled assembly line which is exactly what these were. What happened to bring this massive structure down? That is the subject of the talk and film.

It would be an over-simplification to say it was greed, but that was part of the system's downfall. Was it a failure to keep up with times and tastes of the audience? Partially. Was there a lack of diversification? Most certainly, not to mention a persistent clinging to doing things the "old way". This film will explore the fall of the most major of the major studios—Metro Goldwin Mayer (MGM). Most noted for its lavish musical production, Metro fell from the hands of the artisans and craftsmen into the hands of the corporate "suits". Filmmaking went from being a craft, sometimes an art, to becoming a cash cow for some bigger corporation. The most important thing was making money.

It is surprising to many that the origins of the studio system in Hollywood actually has its beginnings in the early 19th century with many ties to England. The preliminary talk will explore the way in which the separation from

England led to the American star system, unlike anything anywhere else in the world in the 19th century. We'll discover how the railroads in America played an important part in developing the Syndicate which was the model for the 20th-century studios. So sit back, grab some popcorn, and enjoy the show.



CLUB NOTES Club Tie Corner

ADRIAN PROOTH deserves the credit for this picture of rugby star Johnny Wilkinson proudly sporting a Club tie (right). Meanwhile, this saccharine advert from British Gas (above) mysteriously shows a family of mice snuggling down to sleep in what is clearly one of the NSC socks that appeared on eBay briefly in 2013 until we bought them all (see issue 76 of *Resign!*).



New Member

I GUESS FINALLY the stars were right, as at our last meeting to my surprise Richard D'Astardly—a man who has been religiously turning up to Club Nights, quite possibly for years, without joining, suddenly proffered money and signed up.

In all the time he has been coming he has studiously avoided appearing in photos, covering his face if a camera is produced, so I was equally surprised when, in May, he voluntarily appeared in this one, holding up a coat as a backdrop for a portrait of Eva modelling a novel cycling helmet. You can't see much, but if you're an habitué of the Club Nights you'll doubtless be able to recognise him from his moutaches. Welcome to the Club, Mr D'Astardly.



Richard D'Asrardly (some of him, at least)



Forthcoming Events



**BOTH OFFICIAL NSC JAUNTS (🎩) AND
THIRD-PARTY WHEEZES WE
THINK YOU MIGHT ENJOY**

FOR THE LATEST developments, see the Events page at www.newsheridanclub.co.uk plus our Facebook page and the web forum.

🎩 NSC Club Night

Wednesday 7th October

7pm–11pm

Upstairs, The Wheatsheaf, 25 Rathbone Place, London W1T 1JB

Members: Free

Non-Members: £2 (first visit free)

See page 2.

Magic Lantern

Until Sunday 11th October

Sat–Mon 11–5, Tues–Fri 11–6

The Town House, 5 Fournier Street, Spitalfields.

London E1 6QE

Admission: Free

An exhibition of work by Paul Bommer, mostly prints playfully celebrating traditional Britishness and London’s heritage in particular. Warmly recommended.

Cakewalk Café

Every Wednesday

7pm–1am

Passing Clouds, 1 Richmond Road, Dalston,

London E8 4AA

Admission: Free before 9pm, £5 after that

Dress: 1920s/1930s preferred

Live swing jazz every Wednesday hosted by Ewan Bleach with guest performers each time.

The Golden Era of Jazz

Every Thursday

7pm

Jamboree, 566 Cable Street, London E1W 3HB

Admission: Free before 8pm, £4 between 8 and 9.30, £5 after that

A weekly night of 1920s jazz and 1930s swing presented by clarinettist Ewan Bleach with various guests.

🎩 NSC Film Night

Heroes, Villains, Damsels and Clowns

Wednesday 14th October

7pm–11pm

The Tea House Theatre, 139 Vauxhall Walk, London SE11 5HL (020 7207 4585)

Admission: Free

See page 14.

The Evolution of Elegance in British Menswear: A Talk by Timothy Long

Thursday 15th October

7pm

The Dandy Lab, 73 Brushfield Street, London E1 6AA

Admission: £10.50–13.50 from Eventbrite

Timothy Long is Curator of Fashion & Decorative Arts at the Museum of London. In this lecture he will review the history of British men’s fashion, touching upon the sensibilities of famous Londoners—such as King George’s



friend Beau Brummell—and the development of the three-piece suit as a symbol for power and influence. Tim will also trace the sartorial traditions of Britain’s most iconic literary and cinematic personalities from the 18th to the 21st century. Drinks and refreshments will be provided.

Balboa Lessons at Fontaine’s

Thursday 15th October

Beginners 7.30, improvers 8.15, social dancing 9–11pm

Fontaine’s, 176 Stoke Newington Road, London N16 7UY

Admission: Classes £5, social dancing free

Learn to dance Balboa with Paul Crook from the Hot-Cha Dance Company.

The Double R Club

Thursday 15th October

8pm

The Bethnal Green Working Men’s Club, 44–46

Pollard Row, Bethnal Green, London E2 6NB

Admission: £10 in advance

An evening of mystery and nightmares inspired by the films of David Lynch, featuring a parade of cabaret and burlesque performers, all hosted by Benjamin Louche. Comes highly recommended by our Chairman. More at www.thedoublerclub.co.uk.

Shooting Stars (1920)

Friday 16th October

6.45pm

Odeon Leicester Square,

Admission: £20 online, but use the code

“LFFARCHIVE” to get 2-for-1

As part of the BFI London Film Festival, this restored masterpiece of silent cinema, depicting a heated love triangle behind the scenes of a 1920s British film studio, will be presented with a newly-composed John Altman score performed live by a 12-piece jazz orchestra. Tickets are normally £20 from the BFI website but if you enter the promo code “LFFARCHIVE” you’ll be able to buy two for the price of one.

The Candlelight Club

Friday 16th and Saturday 17th October

7pm–12am

A secret London location

Admission: £20/25 in advance

Dress: Prohibition dandies, swells, gangsters and molls, degenerate aristos and decadent aesthetes, corrupt politicians and the Smart Set In the Know

The Candlelight Club is a clandestine pop-up cocktail party with a 1920s speakeasy flavour, in a secret London venue lit by candles. Each event offers a shifting cocktail menu plus live period

MAGIC LANTERN
AN EXHIBITION by PAUL BOMMER
PREVIEW OPENING: THUR 1 OCT 6-8.30
TOWN HOUSE
5 FOURNIER-ST. SPITALFIELDS
LONDON E1 6QE
FRIDAY 2 - SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER
SAT/SUN/MON 11-5 • TUES-FRI 11-6



The Churchill/Roosevelt statue that is the starting point for our Cigar Walk

After our failure to muster a quorum for the last two attempts at a cigar walk, the Earl of Essex has stepped forward and offered to run one himself. There will be no charge and there is no minimum number, so it should go ahead as planned. The itinerary will take in Alfred Dunhill in Davies Street, where they have a walk-in humidor; it is usually not busy and we can inspect a whole range of Havana cigars. From there, a short walk to Sautter in

jazz bands (this time the Basin Street Brawlers) and vintage vinylism (generally from the New Sheridan Club's own Auntie Maureen). Ticket holders get an email two days before revealing the location.

Instructions for American Servicemen in Britain

Thursday 22nd
3pm

Arts Depot, 5 Nether Street, Tally Ho Corner, North Finchley, London N12 0GA
Admission: £12 (£10 concs; 10% discount for 10+ tickets)

It's 1942 and a horde of Yankee servicemen have arrived in England—where the locals speak a strange dialect, boil all their food, and talk endlessly about the weather. Issued in 1942 by the American War Office, the pamphlet *Instructions for American Servicemen in Britain* aimed to prepare GIs for their new home and defuse Nazi propaganda attempts to split the allies. The pamphlet is the inspiration for this comedy show, as a crack team of experts explain the rules of British life to their bewildered American cousins. More information at www.artsdepot.co.uk.

Cigar Walk

Saturday 24th October
Midday till about 1.30

Meet at the Churchill and Roosevelt statues, where New Bond Street meets Old Bond Street, just outside the Patek Philippe store
Admission: Free

Mount Street, which generally is quite busy on a Saturday, and is a very small store, but we may be able to have a look at some very old Havana cigars, which they specialise in. Then on to Davidoff, on the corner of Jermyn Street and St James', which is possibly the poshest cigar store in London. Finally, on to J.J. Fox, the oldest cigar store in London, but with a very relaxed atmosphere, to visit the museum and, for those who wish, a smoke upstairs. Essex adds, "Incidentally, for members who have never smoked a cigar and are not sure whether they will like it—and let's face it, Havana cigars can be very expensive—you can try a mild, non-Havana cigar for around £5–6 at J.J. Fox which, together with the free coffee there, means that you won't be wasting much money if you put it down after a couple of draws, and never want to touch the filthy weed again.

Black Tie Ballroom Club

Saturday 24th October

Beginners' class from 2.30, main dance from 7.30pm

Colliers Wood Community Centre, 66–72 High Street, Colliers Wood, London SW19 2BY
Admission: £10 for the dance, £15 for dance and lesson

Dress code: Strictly black tie, evening dress or vintage

A monthly event featuring live sets from the ten-piece strict-tempo Kewdos Dance Orchestra with vocals from Alistair Sutherland singing though the voice trumpet. Period records from

the 1920s and 1930s for Charleston, waltz, quickstep, slow foxtrot and tango, 1940s for swing and 1950s for cha cha, rumba and jive. Interactive social activities include a "bus stop" for waltz and quickstep and a "snowball" and "excuse me" dance. Prizes of free glasses of bubbly for the ten most glamorous looking female dancers to perform a jive or swing dance with a partner. Male and female taxi dancers available. For absolute beginners there is a "learn to dance in a day" class from 2.30pm to 7pm in the same building. The main dance is from 7.30 pm to 11 pm. Prosecco and ice bucket at just £15 per bottle, wine £10. For further information dial 020 8542 1490.

The Candlelight Club's Halloween Ball

Saturday 31st October
6.30pm–1am

A secret central London location

Admission: £35 in advance

Dress: Vintage evening wear, 1920s dandies and swells, gangsters and molls, degenerate aristos and decadent aesthetes, corrupt politicians and the Smart Set In the Know

See above. This time we present a grand Halloween ball in an original 1920s ballroom. There will be dancing to live jazz music from those Gothic Gatsbys the Top Shelf Band, cabaret host Champagne Charlie, burlesque from Suri Sumatra, Charleston hoofing from our dance troupe the Gatsby Girls and vintage DJing from Auntie Maureen. Dining options include a three-course set menu (pre-order only) as well as an à la carte menu on the night.

Mrs Peel's Halloween Happening

Saturday 31st October
8pm–2am

The Eight Club, 1 Dysart Street, Moorgate, London EC2A 2BX

Admission: £15 earlybird, £20 full

price and on the door
Dress: 1960s horror

The Swinging Sixties Halloween party of your dreams! Inspired by Emma Peel, the catsuited, karate-chopping heroine of surreal and stylish 1960s TV show *The Avengers*, Mrs Peel's celebrate's London's most cool, creative, confident and playful decade. In a penthouse private club with views across the city from our heated terraces, master of the revels Count Indigo presents a Hammer Horror extravaganza with live music from the Incredibly Strange Film Band, playing classic TV and film themes, unnatural gyrations from six-piece dance troupe Catsuit A-Go-Go, DJing from Martin Green (premiering his album *Songs for Swinging Ghosts*), plus vintage styling services, a cocktail bar and mind-expanding lighting effects. See www.mrspeels.club.

The Ric Rac Club: Halloween Hullabaloo

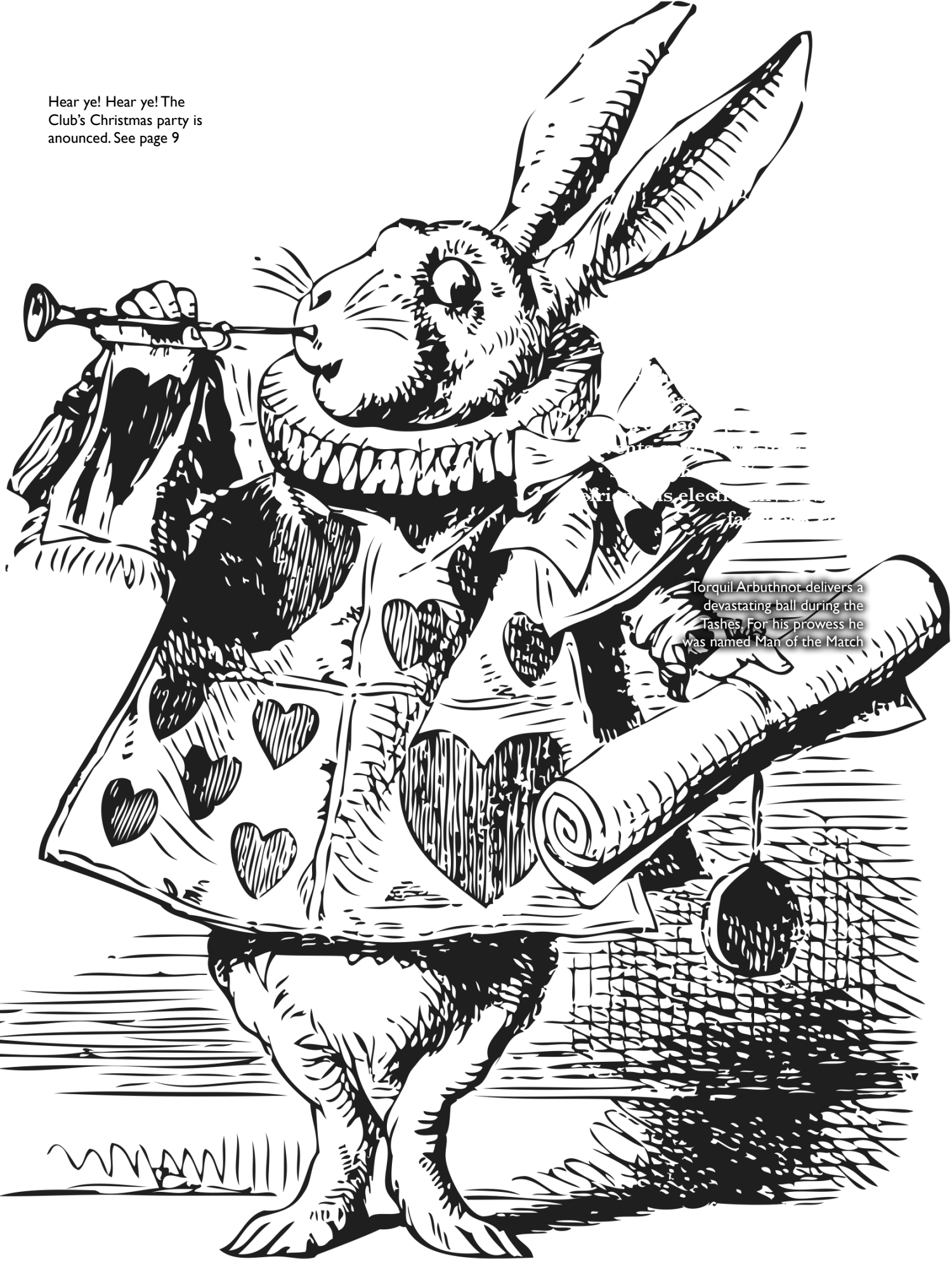
Saturday 31st October
8pm–1am

Fontaine's, 176 Stoke Newington Road, London N16 7UY

Admission: £15 in advance including a cocktail and canapés, £8 for entry only from 10pm
Dress: Your finest sartorial splendour

The Vintage Mafia return with their irregular club night, with vintage DJing and classic cocktails in Fontaine's, the Art Deco bar opened last year by burlesque performer Emerald Fontaine.

Hear ye! Hear ye! The Club's Christmas party is announced. See page 9



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Torquil Arbuthnot delivers a devastating ball during the Tashes. For his prowess he was named Man of the Match

