

# EARL'S COURT SQUARE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

*Protecting and enhancing Earl's Court Square and the lives of the people who live and work here*

## Members' News Autumn 2024/3

### CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE – Chrissie Courtney

It was heartwarming to see so many familiar faces as we came together at our annual summer BBQ and recent Indian evening at The Bottlery to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Earl's Court Square Residents' Association. The presence of so many of our residents was a testament to the strong bonds and dedication that have enriched our community for half a century.

Back in 1974, our Association was formed to safeguard the unique charm and heritage of Earl's Court Square from the pressures of high-density development. Thanks to our united efforts, we successfully designated this area as a Conservation Area, protecting the architectural gems that define our neighbourhood.

Today, our beloved Square could easily be the backdrop of a period drama, with its Victorian facades and meticulously restored coal hole covers showcasing our commitment to historical preservation. Yet, while the issues we face have evolved - from tackling the dumping of rubbish and crime, to ensuring adequate bike storage and its placement - the spirit of community action remains as strong as ever.

We are fortunate that many of our AGMs are attended by local MPs, leading Council Members and police representatives, providing us with the opportunity to ask direct questions and discuss community issues openly. These meetings, often conclude with a glass of wine, and allow us to engage in meaningful dialogue and build stronger relationships with our local authorities.


Our social gatherings, from community barbecues, themed autumn events to our magical annual Christmas tree lighting, are the heart of our neighbourhood. These events are only possible because of your continued support through memberships, which we strive to keep affordable so everyone can take part.

As we look to the future, I warmly invite each of you to either renew your membership in the New Year or consider joining for the first time. Membership fees are £15 for family/household and £10 for single membership. Your involvement fuels our community events and advocacy efforts, making a tangible difference right where we live.


Sadly, I shall be leaving the Square to join my family in Singapore in mid-December but I would like to take a moment to applaud the current members of our Executive Committee: Alex, Nadia, Heidi, Andrew, Stefano, Shailesh, Sue, Larry, Maria, Mariaclara and Magda. Their dedication, support and volunteer service to our community deserve our heartfelt thanks. Thank you all for your commitment and enthusiasm and for your continued support whilst I have been Chair of ECSRA. We have achieved so much for our Square together. Thank you also to all our members who have made me so welcome for the ten years I have been part of this amazing community and I shall forever treasure many happy memories of Earl's Court Square and the people who live and work here.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank John D Wood for sponsoring our events over the years - such as the DJ at the BBQ - and the Garden Sub-Committee, chaired by Katrina, (who are responsible for everything INSIDE the garden railings) for allowing us to use their beautiful garden for our BBQs and Christmas events.




Cheers to another 50 years of community, care, and preservation! And I hope to see you all at the "Lighting of the Christmas Tree" on Sunday 8 December from 4-6pm in the garden - which will be my last ECSRA event.




1974 - 2024  
PROTECTING AND ENHANCING EARL'S COURT SQUARE  
and the lives of the people who live here




- Architecture
- Environment
- Transport/Parking
- Planning
- Safety/Crime
- Pollution
- Licensing
- Social Events
- Rubbish & Recycling



PROMOTING PEDESTRIAN SAFETY



Updating members on local issues




Monitoring and reporting rubbish dumping

Maintaining a website with history and local information

[WWW.ECSRA.CO.UK](http://WWW.ECSRA.CO.UK)

ECSRA is a Gold Standard RA awarded by RBKC



## Farewell to our ECSRA Chairman Chrissie Courtney – Sue Lupton



Chrissie came to live in Earl's Court Square ten years ago. She made an impression on the late Jennifer Ware and one or two others on the ECSRA Executive Committee who were looking for a successor for the role of Chairman.

Initially hesitant, Chrissie agreed (it was difficult to say "no" to Jennifer) and since then she has represented ECSRA with charm, determination and diligence, always with a balanced view.

Chrissie has led the volunteer Executive Committee for the last eight years in determining what is right for the preservation of the Square architecturally, in easing traffic and parking problems, in ensuring a healthy environment, and in enhancing residential amenities including fun events that bring our community together.

Serving on the local Police Ward Panel and well respected by our Councillors, Chrissie has been a force for good, keeping an eye out for what affects Earl's Court Square residents, the Association's catchment area and the greater Earl's Court area.

For Chrissie, taking on responsibility has never been an issue. Aged 37 with two young children, she was elected Councillor to represent the electorate in a Ward within the New Forest District Council. She became Chair of the Council's Leisure and Amenities Committee and served on the Housing and Policy & Resources Committees. She was a member of the Council's Cabinet, representing the Council on many outside bodies, such as Southern Arts and the local Sports Council.

Moving to Monaco in 2002 with her elder son, Chris, to relocate the family shipping business (Norstar) from London, she joined The British Association of Monaco (BAM) as a member. They too saw leadership potential and so Chrissie was invited onto the Committee within months. Having been Vice-President for three years, she was elected and served as President of BAM for four more years before moving back to England. Chrissie was involved with organising many high-profile fundraising events, as BAM annually dispenses welfare payments to British citizens who had fallen on hard times. Chrissie increased the membership to 600, introduced hospital visits and The Great Debate (debates in English for Monegasque school children) supported by the Monaco Government and British Embassy in Paris, raising BAM's profile at government level. She restructured the organisation to operate effectively with welfare and events' guidelines, all whilst helping her two sons establish Norstar, where she was the Director responsible for administration and accounts. In 2005 she assisted her younger son, Tom, to set up Norstar's Singapore office, and was fully involved in the closure of the Monaco office when her son, Chris, relocated the Monaco company to the USA.

In the past year Chrissie was persuaded by her two sons to move close to the family in Singapore. She will be leaving our shores a day after her 78<sup>th</sup> birthday. We are so grateful to Chrissie for the stability and leadership she has provided in our area for the past eight years, leaving a strong legacy from which our Association will benefit.

Those of us who know Chrissie well will miss her friendship, but we wish her well settling into her next life-phase with the family in Singapore.

Suffice to say Chrissie, Earl's Court will miss you enormously.

## ECSRA'S PLANTERS - SE ARM OF SQUARE – Alex Tullett

Interesting year with the planters in the south-east arm of the Square. They continue to fill out and are doing what they were put in place for, by making mopeds and cyclists slow down to go around the sides, and being bird and insect friendly. Mopeds in particular are "walked" around the sides making the pavement a great deal safer compared to what pedestrians had to endure before the planters were in place. ECSRA entered the Kensington and Chelsea Brighter Neighbourhood Scheme again this year only to have the judges turn up a month early in the middle of June. Unfortunately, the damp spring and early summer meant there was no colour other than green or variegated green and white leaves. They were requested to come back after a month, which they did, this time there was colour, and we have been invited to an award ceremony. This indicates ECSRA has won another award to go with the two we received last year, but do not know in which category, and will only find out at the award ceremony.



## RUBBISH AND RECYCLING – Heidi Bradner

One of the aims of ECSRA is to keep the Square, a Conservation Area, clean. We inform residents and ECSRA members about recycling and rubbish regulations and work with the Council to try to solve rubbish hotspots. Good results for 2024 include:

- Helping to establish a designated rubbish storage vault at 69 Earl's Court Square. ECSRA is grateful to the Directors of 69 for their dedication to a shared goal to keep our Square's pavements rubbish free.
- In August, ECSRA posted signs around the Square notifying residents there would be no rubbish collection over the May Bank Holiday - due to RBKC resources being diverted to the Notting Hill Carnival clean-up. Residents informed us these notices worked to help keep the Square clean in 2024.
- ECSRA requested removal of abandoned bicycles and locks at various locations.
- ECSRA worked with RBKC to try to find solution for ongoing rubbish dumping on the pavement near 312 Earl's Court Road.

**Rubbish collections on MONDAYS and THURSDAYS.** Put your waste out by 7am.

- Don't dump rubbish bags on the pavement and please
- Use your vaults to store rubbish - to prevent foxes breaking into bags of food and waste/spreading rubbish on pavements.

**Recycling Reminders:** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/recycling)

- Dispose of expired/unused medications at a local chemist to avoid them going to landfill or into the local water system. All chemists in the UK are required to take back expired or unused medications.
- There is no recycling of the following in our area:
  - Shredded paper.
  - Hard plastics (plastic toys).
  - Crisp packets and wrappers.
  - Plastic film.
  - Batteries.
  - Lightbulbs or Pyrex glass.
  - Paper or cardboard with greasy food waste on it (eg. pizza boxes).
- Tesco Superstores recycle soft plastic waste - including Tesco Express on Fulham Road.

### RBKC/For dumped rubbish:

Call: Streetline on 020 7361 3001

Email: [streetline@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:streetline@rbkc.gov.uk)

RBKC website: go to "Report a problem" and select "report a problem on a street".

<https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/contact-us/report-problem/report-problem-street>

Organise pick-up of large and bulky items: Call 020 7361 3001

<https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/rubbish-collections/bulky-household-waste-collections>.

### Re-Use and Rehome Items:

Post free: [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org)

Use Freegle: For RBKC residents re-homing unwanted items with their neighbours. Offer things you don't need and ask for things you'd like. Don't just recycle – re-use with Freegle!

**Food Waste:** Consideration should be given to providing food waste bins in the larger mansion blocks.

<https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/food-waste-collections>

### Electrical recycling:

<https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/0/recycling/mini-recycling-centres>



## MEMBERSHIP – Nadia Allam

I am excited to serve the community as the newly elected ECSRA Membership Secretary. It is a privilege to join such a dedicated Committee and help raise awareness about our work in the larger community. As your Membership Secretary, my goal is to increase our membership and community involvement - and I will inform you about our events and encourage members to share their needs and concerns. Please feel free to reach out to me or the team as our collective voices will help shape Earl's Court's future development.

email: [ecsrामembers@gmail.com](mailto:ecsrामembers@gmail.com)



### 45 EARL'S COURT SQUARE – Nick Adams

With the help of local Councillor Linda Wade, student nurse Nick Adams and other residents of 45 Earls Court Square have spent the summer months improving and replanting the front steps and basement area of the large triple fronted building.

The residents have recently been informed that they have won a prize which they will collect from the mayor at the upcoming Brighter Kensington and Chelsea Award Ceremony at Kensington Town Hall in early November. They plan to continue improving the planting over the next year - so please do stop for a look as you pass the building.



### NO - NO - NO CASINO – Larry Smith

Earl's Court Square residents recently joined more than 100 residents from across the area in successfully opposing the proposed 4-storey Silvertime Casino on Earl's Court Road.

Silvertime Amusements had proposed to move to the site of the old Lloyds Bank building situated at the corner of Hogarth Road, directly opposite the Tube station. Silvertime's new casino would have been more than 4 times the size of their existing Earl's Court Road site and would have worsened the local area in a number of ways, including scaring away badly needed retail and hospitality investments, as well as increasing anti-social behaviour.

ECSRA Committee members and residents joined a protest earlier in September, at the old Lloyds Bank building and Silvertime's current Earl's Court Road site, to highlight our opposition to the Casino. The protest was led by our 3 local Ward Councillors, and enjoyed support from all local parties.

Ultimately, after receiving more than 1,200 objections, Silvertime chose to withdraw their application.

We will have to wait and see what Silvertime's next move is, but we hope you join us in welcoming this defeat of such a negative proposal for our area.

### FAÇADE RULES FOR EARL'S COURT SQUARE – Chrissie Courtney

After considerable work by ECSRA the Square was granted full Conservation Area status by the RBKC in 1975. One of its stipulations is that **the buildings on the west, north and east sides must be painted Magnolia BS4800 08B15 (preferably matt) with woodwork in white - but the colour of front doors is at the owners' choice. The colour for the house numbers is Black and the typeface is Garamond, 7 inches in height.** The latter detail is not in the Conservation Area document but is something that ECSRA recommended. ECSRA has been in discussions with RBKC Council to take enforcement action against this building (see photo) to protect the architectural integrity of the Square.





## GARDEN NEWS

*Katrina Quinton*



### Seasons of mists ....

I have just been in the garden on the first misty day of autumn. The contrast between the beauty and stillness of the garden and its glorious variations of colour in the gentle mist and the reason I was in the garden was quite stark – I was squirting the squeaky swings and picking up rubbish! Saying that, it doesn't really matter in what frame of mind you enter the garden with, it allows you to recalibrate and often you leave it with a lifted heart.

A garden really does reflect the personality of those who care for it. The long relationship we have had with Charles Wood who with his team look after the garden shows through and we count our blessings to have in Charlie a team who understand the type of garden that we are trying to create for our community. I feel that the Square is a public domestic garden or at least that is what I have tried to develop while being on the sub-committee. I am not an expert but I do love gardens and gardening and like-minded souls and writers. We have benefitted so much from the knowledge and guidance of many people over the years both resident and not. The garden is neither a botanical showcase nor a bland corporate space but we aim for a balance in between which allows for everyone to enjoy it and relax in it. I am also proud that there is always something in flower and whatever time of year you are in the garden there is something to look at. My uncle always said a good garden should be “hoeable and mowable” and I add that it should be an interesting and gentle space, horticulturally and socially.

I met many neighbours during the recent key audit and it was always a pleasure to have tea in the garden or coffee at home if time allowed. Conversations were illuminating and it reminded me that we have so many interesting people in our community. The praise received from those who pay the garden charge – usually with the rider “I never say it but ....” – was lovely especially from those who have their own gardens elsewhere and pop in and out of their London homes. During the Open Gardens Weekend in June when hundreds of visitors from all over the country and the world visit the garden, it is very humbling especially because they choose to visit our garden, often year after year, quite simply because they like it.

Autumn is with us: the trees are beginning to drop their leaves but they are still very green and very full and there are a huge number of leaves to come. There will be Halloween hot chocolate and sausage rolls again this year, and there will be leaf rakes and we will leave some plastic rakes by the shed for those who suddenly feel the urge. It is good exercise and you warm up pretty quickly! For those who are new to the Square look out for the notices or get in touch and we can co-ordinate activities!

The garden is the central part of Earl's Court Square literally and figuratively. It is essential to our community and our sense of community should be cherished and nurtured.

### NEW DEFIBRILLATOR OUTSIDE SCHOOL IN SW ARM:

There is a new defibrillator outside the school (opposite Langham Mansions). We now have two defibrillators easily accessible from the Square – the other being inside Krystals on Earl's Court Road.

## Less is More, More or Less – Sue Lupton

We have covered the stylish Duggie Fields in past newsletters. He was part of the 60s and 70s artistic scene in London and his memory goes on! An exhibition of his work is currently showing at the MODERN INSTITUTE GALLERY in Glasgow titled Duggie Fields, 'LESS IS LESS, MORE OR LESS' until 6 November 2024.



['Less is Less, More or Less' \(From the Archive\), 2024, The Modern Institute, 14–20 Osborne Street, Glasgow - Duggie Fields - The Modern Institute](#)

Duggie Fields lived his art. He styled himself with slicked back hair, a quiff and a kiss curl on his forehead. His dress, poise and home abounded in his art. For Glasgow International 2018, the Modern Institute's Osbourn Street gallery played host to the reimagining of his personal live-work environment in Wetherby Mansions over the 50 years. They re-created his home in the gallery with all his works.

Duggie's paintings were used in many forms – fashion, restaurant décor, posters, homeware. He had his own merchandise too - watches, plates, badges, reworked and remixed.

Someone new has bought Duggie's flat. I wonder if they will lift the lino in the living room to see if Syd Barrett's floor painting, used for a Pink Floyd record album is still there. Duggie's Family would love to know.



Contact [Sue@suelupton.com](mailto:Sue@suelupton.com)

### EARL'S COURT SNT POLICE WARD PANEL – Chrissie Courtney

The SNT is currently at full strength with no vacancies. Police are working with the RBKC Street Enforcement Team in the ongoing PSPO carrying out stop-and-searches, tackling street drinking and anti-social behaviour, begging and cycling on pavements. Operation Nightingale has seen extra officers around the Station and facial recognition cameras have been used successfully. The Police are searching for a pop-up in Earl's Court Road where they can regularly host face-to-face drop-ins for residents. Suggestions welcomed.

### Earl's Court Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT):

Sgt Oliver Jennings Poole

PC Helen Hall  
PC Ben Hunter

PCSO Danny Wright  
PCSO Richard Burnett  
PCSO Faizul Islam

### EMERGENCY- ALWAYS DIAL 999

### Non- Emergency - dial 101

**Email:** [AWMailbox-.SNTBSEarlsCourt@met.police.uk](mailto:AWMailbox-.SNTBSEarlsCourt@met.police.uk)

### Online:

[www.met.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/](http://www.met.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/)

### PLANNING PERMISSION NO LONGER NEEDED FOR "LIKE FOR LIKE" DOUBLE-GLAZING – Andrew Foster

Double-glazing is one of the most effective things householders can do to make their homes more energy efficient and warmer. It also helps to reduce local air pollution coming from gas central heating. However, there has been a lot of confusion (and frustration) in the past about the need for planning permission to install double-glazing, especially in our conservation areas.

The good news this year is that RBKC Council has completely removed the need for planning permission for double-glazing as long as the new windows are exact replicas of the old ones ("like for like").

This has been the position for freehold houses for some time but it has now been extended to flats and other leasehold properties.

It is important to note that:

1. The design/visual appearance of the new windows must be exactly the same as the originals - "like for like" is a precise requirement (simply being "similar" will not count).
2. Leaseholders usually need the consent of the freeholder to carry out double-glazing work. That has not changed and is a private matter between them, the specifics being defined in the lease. However, double-glazing is generally seen as a value enhancing improvement.
3. Sometimes residents are concerned they may still need some paperwork to show that the double-glazing was carried out legally/with the correct consents. They may be thinking of conveyancing if they plan to sell in the future etc. If so, the Council have assured us that they can provide a certificate after the work has been done and that it will be a much simpler, quicker and less costly thing than seeking full planning permission in advance.

We think this initiative is a positive one as it encourages householders to make important home improvements while reducing the cost and bureaucracy involved. More details can be found in RBKC's "Householders' Guide to Windows". We recommend reading this document, particularly the section defining "like for like". It can be found on the RBKC web site at:

<https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/media/document/householders-guide-to-windows>



## ECSRA EVENTS 2024

### AGM February 2024 – Sue Lupton

The ECSRA AGM had an attendance of some 45 residents' along with our three Ward Councillors. In addition, we had the two new Dedicated Ward Officers for Earl's Court and our speaker Cllr. Cem Kemahli, the Lead Member RBKC for Planning & Public Realm, with responsibility for Earl's Court.

It's the one time of the year that residents get to hear of all the work done on behalf of residents within the RA, and often beyond. For example, you will know that our Chairman Chrissie Courtney, who sits on the local Earl's Court Safer Neighbourhood Police Ward Panel, has been pushing for some time now for more policing and the need for Public Service Protection Orders (PSPO). When the Council's proposed PSPO restrictions are adopted, PC Amber Clark and PC Ben Hunter should have the wherewithal to address anti-social behaviour and improve the quality of our life in Earl's Court.

The Executive Committee, of which there are currently 11 members, voluntarily give up time to ensure the Square is a good place live in. Their responsibility is not within the gates of the garden itself, as this is the task of the ECSRA Garden Sub-Committee. It's everything else and covers an area of around 650 households. We 'go after' people and places within the rubbish hot spots. This is a never-ending battle and Committee member Heidi Bradner is tireless in spear-heading this aspect.

ECSRA co-ordinates the annual collection of monies for the hanging baskets and upkeep of the planters in the south-east arm of the Square to which 100 apartments contribute. The planters themselves were paid for with a Council NCIL grant, which the Committee bid for. Not only are they helpful for greening this arm of the Square, but they also help stop cycles and motorbikes using it as a throughfare, presenting a danger to pedestrians. Alex Tullett who has been maintaining these planters won two RBKC awards, in 2023 which were displayed at the meeting.

The Committee have been involved with several safety issues this past year, such as better road markings on the south side, so cars are not using the one entrance to the Square as an exit, the school having more responsible parking and three new secure cycle hangars.

More activities and detailed information can be read in the Chairman's Report, under Reports & AGM on our website <https://ecsra.co.uk/members-area/agm/chairmans-report/>

We were all asked to help boost our membership, with a 'member get member' drive to top up the coffers. ECSRA put on five events for the Square last year, some of which were shared with the Garden Sub-Committee.



Indian Party



AGM 2024



Indian Party

## BBQ 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2024 – Sue Lupton



The annual BBQ, begun in the 1980s, is always a fun evening in the garden square.

It's surprising how much planning and work for volunteers must go into any event, but the BBQ which is the Residents' Association's annual offering to the community, can be particularly challenging.

The weather is a key component. The lighting of the communal BBQs is another.

This year Kevin Colgan, a man who can put his helpful hand to anything, battled bravely for some hours to light the coals, which had gathered moisture in the shed.

The new BBQs are smaller and needed topping up earlier than usual. You can plan for everything, but the checklist gets longer with new realities.



Some folks misread the posters around the square and came empty handed. '*Bring your own food BBQ provided!*' Fortunately, those who did come with picnics were happy to share which was gratefully received.

This year we had two large banners, one at each gate to inform residents of the 50 years that the ECSRA has been operating with a committee of volunteers. The pictures and pointers on the banners showed the many activities continuously monitored on behalf of some 650 homes in the Earl's Court Square Conservation Area. Small cupcakes were passed round to all to advertise the 50-year Birthday.

Hats off and a big thank you to Jerry Shillingford, our DJ disco king, who kept us entertained and dancing all evening. And thank you to our special guests who attended - the three RBKC Councillors, Fr. Paul and our two Dedicated Ward police officers.



## Our Indian party concurring with a week of Indian Summer

For the past six years your ECSRA committee has been holding annual themed parties for the membership and guests. This year 'India' was chosen as the theme with dress, food and entertainment to match.

Some folks 'went to town.' Alex Tullett would win the prize if there were one, sporting a splendid black Maharaja outfit, which looked the biz! Magda arrived in a beautiful authentic dress, having lent Sue some originals from her wonderful collection.

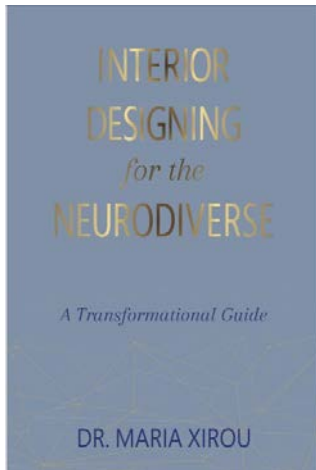
Alan Smith with great dedication found some jazzy Bollywood videos which he pieced together as backdrop entertainment on the big screen, keeping many of us mesmerised. A wonderful addition to the evening. We thank Jimmy and his team at THE BOTTLERY who helped set up and kept the drinks and eats flowing. It's great to be able to have his lovely neighbourhood restaurant to host our September annuals.

The ECSRA event dates for your diary will be available early in the new year for this and other events in 2025, for all to join in. So don't be shy, do join in. You will meet your neighbours in a friendly celebratory environment. **Sue Lupton**





## INTERIOR DESIGNING FOR THE NEURODIVERSE – Doctor Maria Xirou



### About the Book:

In a world that celebrates diversity, our understanding of inclusivity is constantly evolving. *Interior Designing for the Neurodiverse* explores the intersection of neurodiversity and interior design, offering an innovative perspective on how spaces can be customised to support the unique needs of neurodivergent individuals.

This book reveals the secrets of sensory-friendly design, guiding readers on a transformative journey. From grasping the complexities of sensory experiences to mastering the use of colour, sound, lighting, and spatial elements, it highlights the powerful connection between thoughtful design and human wellbeing.

### Explore the Neurodiverse Spectrum:

Gain a deeper understanding of neurodiversity, including Autism, ADHD, DCD, sensory sensitivities, dyslexia, tics, and more. The book explains why tailored design is essential to create environments where every individual can thrive.

Learn how sensory sensitivities influence daily life and discover how design elements can soothe, empower, and provide a haven of calm.

*Interior Designing for the Neurodiverse* is more than just a book—it's a journey into the heart of design that makes a difference. Whether you are an experienced designer, a passionate advocate for neurodiversity, or simply curious about creating inclusive spaces, this book offers invaluable insights.

[Interior Designing for the Neurodiverse: A Transformational Guide : Xirou, Dr. Maria, Weir, Rebecca: Amazon.co.uk: Books](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Books)

### About the Author:

Doctor Maria Xirou is a medical doctor with extensive experience in Community Paediatrics, specialising in the assessment and care of children and young adults with neurodiverse conditions. She has honed her expertise through years of work in psychiatry at the renowned Maudsley Hospital, where she gained a deep understanding of mental health, both as independent conditions and in combination with neurodiversity. Additionally, she has worked with children affected by acquired brain injuries.

Currently based at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital in London, Dr. Xirou remains committed to supporting the wellbeing of her patients.

Beyond her medical career, Dr. Xirou pursued her passion for interior design, earning a diploma in the field. This rare blend of medical knowledge and design expertise has allowed her to develop spaces tailored specifically for neurodiverse individuals. Her innovative, inclusive approach reflects a deep commitment to improving the lives of those with neurodivergent conditions.

Dr. Maria Xirou is not just a medical professional—she is a visionary working at the intersection of healthcare and design. Her work in creating supportive environments for neurodiverse individuals makes her a pioneer in this vital field. Through her unique blend of medical insight and design acumen, she continues to enrich lives and champion inclusive spaces for all.



### LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Join your neighbours in Earl's Court Square Garden.

ALL WELCOME

SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024

4pm – 6pm

Mulled wine with mince pies & hot chocolate with cookies. Carols & festive songs around the Christmas Tree accompanied by Ben Comeau on the keyboard.

**WANTED – CAROL SINGERS.** Please email Sue Lupton if you're free to help a small group of 6-8 to lead the carol singing, accompanied by Ben Comeau on the keyboard, for around 20 minutes. Email: [sue@suelupton.com](mailto:sue@suelupton.com)

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