THE FREE MAGAZINE OF THE SOHO SOCIETY
As far as I’m concerned, Peter Bolzot, whose eightieth birthday Noel Botham celebrates in this issue, sums up all that’s best about Soho. Generous, talented, larger than life and with a vision and a will to get things done in this amazingly diverse community of ours, we could do with a few more around like him these days.

All of us live, work or play in Soho, but all too often far too many of us take Soho for granted. So the Big Soho Quiz is a celebration and a reminder of everything that makes Soho unique, from the serious and the cultural, to the silly and the downright bonkers.

For 2010, let’s all of us get more involved in Soho, and help it retain its place as the best, most welcoming and most individual community in the country. You could start by joining the Soho Society. Have a great 2010.

Cover Photo of the Cloth House, Berwick Street by Kaye De Ville. The Cloth House is at Numbers 47 and 98 Berwick Street, Soho, and both stores are open 9.30am to 6pm Monday – Friday, and 10.30am to 5pm Saturdays. Telephone 020 7437 5155 and 020 7287 1555. Web: www.clothhouse.com

Roy Harrison 1949—2009

IT IS WITH GREAT SADNESS that we report the death of Roy Harrison, loyal friend, unassuming administrator, and staunch supporter of Soho.

Roy grew up in the heart of Soho: St James’s Residences (aka The Buildings), Brewer Street. His schooling started at St James’s and St Peter’s CE Primary School, Great Windmill Street. From there he went to the London Oratory.

Roy spent his childhood in Soho, and he had fond memories of Soho in the ’50s. His family moved to Vauxhall Road, but Roy maintained contact with Soho. His work career began at Smiths Industries as an apprentice. He worked at the old Westminster Hospital as a theatre assistant. Then he secured a job at the Victoria Library, Buckingham Palace Road, becoming a reference librarian. He enjoyed answering questions and helping people. He then became an administrator and moved to the City of Westminster Archives Centre. He was a regular at the Soho Festival, volunteering all day at a stall on behalf of the Westminster Archives Centre.


Roy was a member of the Soho Society and the Soho Rambling Association. He was also a founding member and Trustee of The Museum of Soho.

Roy enjoyed fine food (his favourite food: tagliatelle e fungi) and coffee (Velluto Nero from Algerian Coffee Stores). He also enjoyed travel and spoke French and Italian fluently. To the very end, Roy Harrison was a loyal friend and great supporter of Soho.

JOAN NAVARRE,
THE MUSEUM OF SOHO
Roy Harrison; 29 June 1949 – 7 October 2009

THE SOHO SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2010 Annual General Meeting of the Soho Society will take place on Friday 26th February 2010 at 6.30pm in Saint Anne’s Community Hall Dean Street London W1D 6AF

LIVE WORK LOVE SOHO
A campaign is under way for fair compensation as more than sixty Dean Street businesses have been forced to close. The businesses in Dean Street have been thrown out with scant notice, prior to their premises being demolished as part of the Crossrail Project. The businesses claim that Crossrail has offered them as little as a quarter of their actual relocation costs.

Crossrail, the multi-billion-pound railway project, is scheduled to open in 2017 and will link west and east London, from Maidenhead and Heathrow in the west to Shenfield and Abbey Wood in the east. The route will run under Soho and the works will affect the north end of Soho for the foreseeable future. Already the north-eastern point of Soho, including the Astoria theatre, has been demolished to make way for a new and expanded Tottenham Court Road station. Eventually more than two hundred businesses along the Crossrail route will be forced to relocate.

Photo: Kaye De Ville

Two new DVDs on life in and around Soho in the sixties have been released by the British Film Institute. Considered sensational and scandalous in their day, Primitive London and London in the Raw purport to expose the sordid underbelly of the big bad city in glorious Technicolor. From Soho tarts and strippers in near beer bars, to cynical ad execs, free-loving hippies, and suburban swingers, much of them are clearly staged, but still provide a fascinating snapshot of sixties prurience. As an extra on Primitive London is Soho Tales, where Bernard Braden interviews contemporary Soho characters: a nightclub owner, a strip club manager, and a stripper. Primitive London and London in the Raw out now.

Image BET

Soho Theatre Director leaves

Lisa Goldman, Artistic Director of the Soho Theatre, will be stepping down next year. Goldman has been at the Dean Street theatre for four years, during which time she has been credited with establishing the theatre both nationally and internationally, as well as reaching out to a diverse audience.

She commented: "I am particularly proud to have developed a strong London identity for Soho theatre in terms of our programme and audience, both of which have reflected our remarkable intercultural city." Her last production at the Soho Theatre will be in April, and the search for her successor will begin next year.

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LIVE WORK LOVE SOHO
Spirit of St Barnabas

The House of Saint Barnabas helps people who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness, to develop the skills they need to obtain and sustain a job, and thereby to change their lives.

With great support from Quintessentially—a Soho-based concierge business—we are developing a new and sustainable charitable model, combining life skills and social enterprise. At the heart of this model is a supportive and welcoming community—something that many previously homeless individuals have been missing for so long.

Quintessentially has refurbished and redecorated the House, and installed artwork throughout our rooms. In the Monro Room a set of old photographs from Getty Images now adorns the walls. One of these shows a woman, with two young children, and a toddler in a pushchair, protesting in 1963 against homelessness...

Diane Garvey was watching the news when a piece about the House showed a glimpse of this photograph, and she almost fell off the sofa, because the woman in the photograph was her mother, and she was the toddler in the pushchair.

We met Diane a week later when she came to the House with her sister Christine to share her family’s story of homelessness and to tell us so proudly about her redoubtable mother who had battled so hard for her family.

It was wonderful to meet and talk with Diane and Christine, but the story didn’t end there. On a hunch we called Getty Images and asked if in their archives there were other photographs of the same family group. The people at Getty could not have been more helpful. Busy as they were they were moved by the story, and two weeks later an envelope arrived...

There inside were five new photographs of their family that Diane and Christine had never seen. We invited Diane and Christine back for a cup of tea...

This is not a story that is primarily about homelessness, nor about the charitable work of the House, but it encapsulates the spirit of the House nonetheless. It is this spirit, this warmth and sense of community, that makes the impossible possible, and provides people with the support they need to change their lives.

David Evans of the House of Saint Barnabas with Diane and Christine Garvey

We’re watching...

Amongst recent Planning Applications examined by the Society’s Planning and Environment Committee were the following:

69/73 Shaftesbury Avenue, application for four tables and eight chairs on the highway plus canopies and barriers. We objected to this scheme because it would create almost permanent trading space on this busy part of Shaftesbury Avenue and narrow the available pavement space far too much.

The Hippodrome, Cranbourn Street. We welcomed various changes during the course of construction to become a casino to improve the scheme internally and restore various original decorative features.

107/110 Charing Cross Road. We welcomed a proposal to completely refurbish the old Saint Martin’s College of Arts to provide shops at ground floor level, a community space at a peppercorn rent, and residential flats above for both private and affordable housing.

57 Rupert Street. We objected to a proposal to extend an existing bar because the existing use is a noisy one causing much disturbance to residents and we felt that the proposed increased space might well increase this nuisance.

We continued to receive a large number of applications to change shop-fronts, install canopies, extraction ducts and place table and chairs on the pavements. Most of these were uncontroversial and we did not object.
Soho stalwart
Peter hits 80

PETER BOIZOT, one of Soho’s greatest and most generous champions over the last four decades has turned eighty – and we wish him every happiness in his retirement. A flamboyantly elegant figure, whose wit and charm disguised an iron determination in his dealings with authority on behalf of the business and residential communities of Soho, Peter was a unique contributor to our style and well-being.

His parties at Kettner’s, the head-quarters of his extensive business empire, were the stuff of legend. Vast quantities of champagne and caviar were consumed to a background of jazz from some of the most famous names in the business. He once threw one of the most lavish champagne bashes ever witnessed just to inaugurate his new gent’s toilets in Kettner’s!

He then hired a whole train to carry his guests from Soho to a birthday party at his hotel in Peterborough, with a jazz band at King’s Cross station to welcome them aboard, and, of course, endless bottles of champagne to sustain them on the journey. The man who founded the Pizza Express chain and through his restaurants brought jazz to the masses was also responsible for introducing the Soho Waiters’ Race, in which waiters ran a half mile around Soho’s streets carrying a tray, bottle, glass and ashtray, and which became a major feature of the annual Soho Festival. At his behest every Westminster mayor during Peter’s Soho days, and a host of celebrities, turned out each year to support the Festival.

However, he is probably best known, and remembered, for the Soho Jazz Festival, an annual, week-long celebration of all that is best in the genre, which he introduced and financed. Peter gave leadership and bite to the now defunct Soho Restaurateurs’ Association and stood no nonsense from interfering petty council officials or councillors. He had no truck with officialdom or fools but could count such diverse personalities as Ruby Venezuela, Prince Edward and various impoverished actors among his many chums.

One of Peter’s great passions is hockey and he has regularly flown half across the world to watch the England team in action.

His retirement to his beloved Peterborough has undoubtedly been to Soho’s cost, for no comparable benefactor has emerged – or even looks like emerging – to replace him.

Personalities of his ilk are rare indeed and his support and presence and sheer exuberance for Soho and its lifestyle are sorely missed.

A happy birthday indeed, Peter.

NOEL BOTHAM

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Soho Housing
Association works to provide well managed affordable housing to enhance and sustain the diverse communities in the heart of London.

www.sohoha.org.uk
The Big

We all know that the name Soho comes from the old hunting cry of “So-ho!”, back in the days when Henry VIII used the area as hunting fields (and judging by Old Compton Street on a Saturday night, nothing much has changed in the past four hundred years). And we can all probably more or less agree on the boundaries of Soho—roughly, Oxford Street to the north.

Soho Streets
After whom, or what, were the following Soho streets named?
1. D’Arblay Street.
2. Old Compton Street.
3. Berwick Street.
4. Rupert Street.
5. Wardour Street.
6. Piccadilly Circus.
7. Poland Street.
8. Great Windmill Street.
9. Livonia Street.
10. Brewer Street.

Quotable Soho
Who said this about Soho?
1. “If you get Soho-itis, you will stay there day and night and get no work done ever.”
2. One day you’ll be waiting there—no empty bench in Soho Square.”
3. “Untidy, full of Greeks and Ishmaelites, cats, Italians, tomatoes, restaurants, organs, coloured stuff, queer names, people looking out from upper windows, it dwells apart from the British Body Politic.”
4. Let London know that life and heart and hope are in Soho.”
5. “In Soho all the things they say happen do.”
6. “I saw a werewolf with a Chinese menu in his hand, walking through the streets of Soho in the rain—he was looking for the place they call Lee Ho Fook’s.”
7. “On a rainy night in Soho the wind was whistling all its charms.”
8. “Soho has always been

Soho Café Culture
1. It’s been in Soho since 1887 and gets through one tonne of coffee a week. Where is it?
2. Since 1969 where has the best place been to find Rocky Marciano?
3. The Moka was supposedly the very first espresso bar in London, and was opened in 1953 by Gina Lollabrigida. Naturally it was in Soho—but where in Soho?
4. Which Soho café once displayed a fifteen-foot marionette on its facade?
5. According to Pulp’s Jarvis Cocker to which café in Soho do “all the broken people go”?

Soho Past
Soho’s streets haven’t always had the Can you tell where all these landmarks in and near Soho are?
Soho Quiz

Regent Street to the west, Charing Cross Road to the east, although there's some friendly debate over whether south Soho ends at Shaftesbury Avenue or sneaks over into Chinatown as well. For the holiday season, Nigel Robinson has put together some laughably simple and some bafflingly obscure questions to test your knowledge of the place where we all live, work or play—answers in the next issue of the Soho Clarion.

names they have today. Where in modern-day Soho would you expect to find the old:
1. Coleman Hedge Lane.
2. Broad Street.
3. Pethouse Close.
4. King’s Square.
5. Gelding Close.
6. Hog Lane.
7. Crown Street.
8. Queen Street.
9. Church Street.

Soho Pubs
1. Which Soho pub is named after the Swiss protestant community who used to work in and around Golden Square?
2. Which Soho gay pub was once known as the Swiss and attracted the likes of Francis Bacon?
3. Which Soho pubs were respectively the unofficial headquarters of the free French and the Dutch Resistance during the Second World War?
4. Madonna supposedly used to drink ale here, and its interior is Grade II listed. Which Soho pub is it?
5. Which chic Soho bar is named after Oscar Wilde’s favourite flower?
6. It’s the only Soho bar whose name is exactly the same as the street on the corner of which it’s sited. Which one is it?
7. Who are the Crown and Two Chairmen?
8. It used to be known as the Scots House and Bob Dylan, Sandy Denny and the Sex Pistols have all played or drunk in here. What is it better known as now?
9. There are several pubs called the Blue Posts in Soho. What's the meaning of the name?
10. Gone, but not forgotten, from Soho is the Intrepid Fox pub. But who was the Fox?

Literary Soho
1. Which poet, painter and visionary was born in Soho and lived in a house on Broadwick Street, on the site of which an apartment block now stands bearing his name?
2. Who ate opium in Greek Street?
3. Who feasted with panthers in the late nineteenth-century in a restaurant which is still open today?
4. After being sent down from Oxford in 1811 for writing a pamphlet on atheism, who lived for a while at 15 Poland Street?
5. Even though they lived in Camden, which two French poets (and lovers) would often spend their time getting drunk in some of Soho’s sleazier dives, including the Hibernia tavern on Old Compton Street?
6. Which Soho street is named after a character in Charles Dickens’ A Tale of Two Cities?
7. Which literary giant was born in Cecil Court but moved to Soho 105 years ago?
8. This accomplished physician and scientist was born in what is now known as Broadwick Street but is much more famous for the non-fiction book which bears his name. Who is he?
9. Which literary club did Samuel Johnson and Joshua Reynolds found at 9 Gerrard Street in 1764?
10. Whose memoirs were called “You’re Barred, You Bastards”?

Soho People
1. Who was born above a butcher’s shop at 94 Berwick Street in 1907 and became one of the UK’s biggest stars?
2. Who would often frequent the Black Cat café on Old Compton Street with his fellow rent boys, “blinded with mascara and dumb with lipstick”?
3. What did Mr George Wombwell display on Old Compton Street in the nineteenth century?
4. Which famous writer is buried in Saint Anne’s Churchyard?
5. And the ashes of which other writer are buried beneath the tower of Saint Anne’s church of which she had been churchwarden?
6. Which chef of Napoleon III opened this Soho landmark restaurant which still bears his name?
7. Who was Soho’s King of Corsica?
8. Her first club was the little-known Music Box in Leicester Place, and one of her terms of endearment was a vulgar term for female genitalia. Who was she?
9. Which redcoat was the patron of the Soho Association in the 1950s?
10. At the time of the Great War which Soho-ite became the only foreigner to hold a full pub licence?

Soho Calendar
1. Which Soho drinking institution turned sixty on 15 December 2008 only to have its green door closed?
2. Why was Dean Street closed to traffic on 14 July 1989?
3. What happened at 22 Frith Street on 27 January 1926?
4. Which Soho institution closed with a “Demolition Ball” on 14 January 2009?
5. What happened in Soho on 30 April 1999 at 6.37pm?
6. What was born in a room above Kettner’s in November 1972?
7. Why is it probably not a good idea to drive a car down Old Compton Street on the first Saturday of July?
8. What happened in Dean Street at 9.50pm on 8 March 1941?
9. Who retired on 22 May 2006 after sixty-three years of being rude?
10. Who or what was officially recognised in 1892?

Soho Linked
What links:
1. A character from Wuthering Heights; a music hall song; a Soho pub.
2. Peter O’Toole; Tom Conti; Keith Waterhouse.
3. London W1; Birmingham B16; New York 10012.
4. Bibulous: Mister Dinsdale; Herr Schmidt; Monsieur Berlemont.
5. Bibulously (again): Berwick Street; Rupert Street; Kingly Street; and (outside Soho) Newman Street.
6. Musically: Tommy Steele; Adam Faith; Hank Marvin.
7. Mrs Dale of radio diary fame; a famously unwell Spectator columnist; What’s The Story, Morning Glory by Oasis.
8. Architecturally and currently (Chinese) gastronomically: Sir Henry Irving; Sarah Bernhardt.
9. Musically: Oxford Street; Wardour Street; Charing Cross Road; Upper Saint Martin’s Lane.
10. Karl Marx; Marco Pierre White; Peter Ustinov.

Soho Places
1. Where and what in Soho was the ‘21’s’?
2. Built on the site of the old Crosse and Blackwell pickle factory, this Soho landmark was demolished this year, but in its day was a cinema, a theatre, and finally a nightspot which once played host to Madonna. What was it?
3. The pickle factory was built on the site of Hooper’s hotel. What sort of hotel was it?
4. Who—or what—never closed?
5. Where in Soho was the Ancient Order of Druids revived in 1731?
6. Which Soho street has been “welcoming the world” since the Swinging Sixties?
7. Where on the edge of Soho would you expect to meet an angel of Christian charity?
8. Where and what was the Establishment club?
9. Which Dean Street pub did serial killer Denis Nilsen frequent and pick up several of his victims and intended victims?
10. Which Soho institution opened its doors in 1985 with a name inspired by a comment of one of the Marx Brothers?

Musical Soho
1. Who did Ray Davies of The Kinks meet in a club down in old Soho?
2. Which musical genius lodged with his family at 20 Frith Street in 1764-65?
3. Which musical institution started fifty years ago on Gerrard Street before moving to its present home n Frith Street?
4. Which wild man of rock is commemorated by a blue plaque on the site of the Marquee club in Wardour Street?
5. Which Soho club, also on Wardour Street, was nicknamed the Pit and attracted musicians such as Lou Reed and Deep , and was even namechecked in a song written by Joe Strummer of the Clash?
6. Which German flew with a Dutchman on Old Compton Street?
7. Which Austrian lodged briefly in 1791 in Great Pulteney Street?
8. Who got married in Saint Patrick’s Church in Soho Square in 1960 and caused a near-riot of teenybopper fans?
9. Who sang operatically about a “ghastly fire in Soho” for three pence?
10. Why shouldn’t you be surprised to find a Beatle or even a Beckham in Soho Square?

And randomly...
1. What is sometimes referred to as the “Dean Street Shuffle”?
2. What did Caius Gabriel Cibber give to Soho?
3. Where did the UK premieres of Gilbert and Sullivan’s Trial By Jury and Ibsen’s Ghosts take place?
4. Which cigarette is named after the Soho street on which it had its London factory?
5. Where in Soho did cabaret star Josephine Baker make her London debut?
6. What entertainments did Theresa Cornelys provide at Carlisle House in Soho Square?
7. Where is Little Compton Street?
8. In the sixties where in Soho would you be able to find Heaven and Hell in the same place?
9. What lies beneath the mock Tudor cottage in Soho Square?
10. What entertainment institution opened on Boxing Day 1910 on the site of a Corinthian bazaar?

Can you name the following Soho pubs?

LIVE WORK LOVE SOHO
The spirit of Soho Christmas

As we think about Christmas - there is a lot of preparation to do. Cards for friends and presents to be bought or recycle, making sure you don't give someone back their present from last year, and thinking about what food is going to be needed for the holidays.

At Saint Anne's Church preparation of services began a while back and the service sheets are being organised for the month of December. Meetings about Christmas trees have already taken place discussing the decorations that will be fixed to them and the choir will commence their rehearsal soon for the nine lessons and carols on the evening of Sunday 20 December (7pm) and it is almost as if the season runs away with itself as it seems to get earlier each year.

Christmas now is different from that first Christmas where Mary, a young girl, is told by an angel that she will bear God's Son. Initially her husband-to-be thinks she has been unfaithful but after a heavenly visit to the realises that this child is the promised Messiah.

And so the Christmas story begins with a journey to register in the census and a baby being born in a stable as there is no room in the Inn. The Christ child is born into poverty and the world really doesn't notice.

Like that first Christmas, many in our world will spend Christmas in poverty and lots of people will fail to notice their plight. Christmas is also a time when some people will be very lonely and spend the holidays on their own, and others will hate the time and just wish it to be over.

But what is Christmas about? If it is just a time for food and drink and presents then it is no better than a pagan festival where we eat, drink and be merry. However, if we see Christmas as a journey of exploration and time of true celebration and sharing with others, then maybe we catch something of the message of that first Christmas where God shares his Son with us and, though the world fails to recognise him, we, like the angels, shepherds and Magi, worship catch a glimpse of Heaven.

Last year at Saint Anne’s we started hosting a Christmas lunch for anyone who would be alone and we catered for about thirty people in the beauty of the House of Saint Barnabas. Some of our guests were elderly and single, others homeless - there was a glimpse of heaven that day and still I meet one of the homeless men who comes up and gives me a hug and says, “It was the best day of my life.”

This year we plan to have lunch at Saint Anne's and if you would like details of this please contact me at the parish number. No matter what you do this Christmas please know that you will be in our thoughts and prayers.

May you have a truly blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year and may the Christ Child bless you and all whom you love.

David Gilmore (Rector of Saint Anne's Church)

Carols and Christmas Services In Soho

Saint Anne’s, Dean Street
Saturday 12 December 7.30pm Carol Concert by Times and Season at the House of Saint Barnabas, Greek Street
Tuesday 15 December 7.30pm Carol Service with the London University Choir at the House of Saint Barnabas
Wednesday 16 December 2pm and 6pm School Nativity Play at the House of Saint Barnabas
Friday 18 December 10am School Carol Service at Saint Anne’s Church, Dean Street
Sunday 20 December 7pm Nine Lessons and Carols at Saint Anne’s Church
Thursday 24 December 5pm Christingle Service at Saint Anne’s Church
Thursday 24 December 11.30pm Midnight Mass at Saint Anne’s Church
Friday 25 December 10am Christmas Day Morning Service at Saint Anne’s Church

Saint Patrick’s, Soho Square
Thursday 24 December 12.45pm Daily Mass;
Thursday 24 December 6pm Cantonese Vigil Mass
Thursday 24 December 7.30pm Spanish Vigil Mass
Thursday 24 December 11.30pm English Carols/Readings
Thursday 24 December 0.00 Midnight Mass 2
Friday 25 December 11am English Mass (the Church will close after Mass)
Saturday 26 December 6pm Vigil Mass (the Church will close after Mass)
ON A WINDY November mid-week lunchtime a friend and I decided to revisit the Gay Hussar.
Both of us had memories of having eaten there in the dim distant past. We were not disappointed. As we entered, the years melted away and we were greeted by a smiling avuncular maître d' who assured us that it didn’t matter that we hadn’t booked. He ushered us to a table near the back of the restaurant with lots of room for two.
Our fellow lunchers in the downstairs restaurant included a very frail gentleman in his nineties accompanied by his daughter, a group of people up from the shires for a matinee, a single lady in publishing and a tawdry group of politicians on expenses.
We perused the bookshelves: a bizarre collection of books: Simon Wiesenthal’s biography next to Von Rippentrop’s! What was Eric Clapton’s biography doing there?
Some very spicy red peppers were offered as an amuse-bouche while we considered the menu. I chose two courses, a starter and a main and my friend, Nick, remembering the delicious pastries of Budapest, went for a main and a pudding.
While we waited for the first course to arrive we sipped our wine – his a crude and cheerful Pinot Noir and mine a crisp, quite drinkable white – and contemplated the array of political cartoons on the wall, the strange sword that the Hussar must have left behind, and a couple of faded photos of archduchesses.
Finally the awaited hors d’oeuvre arrived which we both sampled: Debreceni Koltász, a warm Hungarian smoked sausage with both mild and piquant accompaniments, horseradish and sweet gherkin.
I had a flashback of the GDR and Central European cuisine. If you have seen the film Goodbye Lenin then you might remember the hunt for East German Spreewald gherkins for the ailing mother. This was the very same flavour. The 1970s Kalocsa hand-painted ceramic pepper pot and side plate enhanced this Ostalgie atmosphere.
Two main courses followed on smoothly: Nick’s order was Csirképaprikás Galuska, a seriously substantial chicken in a creamy paprika sauce served with small dumplings described by Nick as having been gently cooked, warm and tender with a warm sweet paprika flavour absolutely the opposite of curry.
He went on to compare the food favourably with food that he had been served in Hungary which was in his experience always served tepid at best. All the food we were served was at the right temperature. My order, Káposzta Halgásluska, delicate fish dumplings in a creamy dill and mushroom sauce, was delicious.
Having eschewed the rice that accompa-
Win a bottle of Champagne!

The Vintage House of 42 Old Compton Street has generously donated a bottle of champagne as the prize for this competition. The first correct entry to be pulled from a hat on 28 February 2010 will win the prize. Send completed grids to: The Clarion Crossword, The Soho Society, Saint Anne’s Tower, 55 Dean Street, London W1D 6AF. Answers and details of winner next issue. The successful solver of the Soho Cryptic 138 was David Hoad of Yeovil and a bottle of bubbly will be on its way to him shortly!

Solution to Soho Cryptic 138

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Clues Across

1A, 19D, 21D Too many people at Widecombe Fair? (5,3,6,3,3)
5 A kid relaxed (2,4)
10 Amusing part of dotcom Iceland (5)
11 A scale from Mr Chaotic (9)
12 Nominate a scattered radiation (9)
13 Country seen in returning help (5)
14 Compositions for eastern duets abroad (6)
15 Suspicion linking uncertainty (7)
18 He could be Crazy Cloud VI (7)
20 Foreign correspondent? (3,3)
22 Passenger provision (5)
24 Composer known to roll over (9)
25 TV serial: clean and musical (4,5)
26 Sounds like Wales, but it’s actually Spain (5)
27 Compensation backstage? (6)
28 In fine health, yes indeed (4,4)

Clues Down

1 Pawnbroker’s relations? (6)
2 Groom at Edward fought (9)
3 One and all, with nobody left out! (4,3,5,3)
4 Bloomers from scattered choirs around Mid-Reading (7)
6 Three names mentioned, but it could be anybody (3,4,3,5)
7 Did, or pretended to do (5)
8 Stock replacement? (8)
9 Sultanate supplies brine mixture about mid-January (6)
16 Can invade roughly beforehand (2,7)
17 Alistair did a wall-painting outdoors (8)
19 see 1A
20 Oddly eager after exercise to get the highest honour (6)
21 see 1A
23 Make small red star (5)
**The Soho Society**  
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Please pay to the order of The Soho Society, account no 70859125, sort code 20-78-98, Barclays Bank plc, 27 Soho Square, London W1A 4WA, a subscription of £ immediately and thereafter on the same date each year until further notice. Please cancel previous orders in favour of the Society. Signed...  

Please return to The Soho Society, St Anne’s Tower, 55 Dean Street, London W1D 6AF.

If you pay tax, we can claim back the tax you pay on your donation. Please help us by ticking the box below and signing this form.  
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