

# THE SMITHFIELD GAZETTE



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## **CITY OF LONDON VOTES TO STAY IN**

At the Common Council on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, Mark Boleat, presented a report that the City take a position on the EU referendum.

The meeting was well attended by public and press. The debate was lengthy and prolonged by a fire alarm. A number of members had to leave before voting for other engagements. An amendment to split the motion to allow more constructive debate was approved. The motion was controversial as it did not allow for a vote to leave the EU. The original wording for the national referendum was over-ruled by the Electoral Commission which insisted on an in or out vote. The bulk support of the Aldermen won the day and decided the issue. Finally the following motion was put forward:

"Taking into account views of City stakeholders and businesses, the City of London Corporation supports the UK remaining as a member of the EU." The affirmative vote was successful.

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## **A VOTE FOR THE CITY WORKER**

The referendum dominates discussion all over the UK, workers everywhere realise their vote is powerful and perhaps the most important decision of their lifetime. This time their vote counts, every single vote matters. This individual vote could be the first step to change the way in which the country organises general election voting and prompt City workers to demand the right to vote for the government of the city they work in. The City voting scheme allows companies one vote for every five employees. This can be quickly and efficiently improved immediately by allowing one vote for every two employees, thereby giving a real say to the genuine City workers in the administration of our city.

### **QUOTE OF THE MONTH**

"I love Britain, not Brussels. I want what's best for our country - for all those British families working hard to pay the bills, and children dreaming of a better future. That's what this referendum is all about - the things Brits really care about and I believe they're better delivered in a reformed Europe than out of it."

*David Cameron*

## THE SMITHFIELD GAZETTE COMMENT

The referendum debate exposes the undemocratic system of voting in the City of London. The City government operates in fear of bankers and responds to the pressure they apply. We will continue to expose the hypocrisy of banks and others who demand privileges while secretly stowing away their profits which should be subject to taxation. The Aldermanic group voted to stay in, they would wouldn't they?

Many Aldermen gained their position with a laughably tiny number of votes and act as if they were in some way superior. Well, they are not. Every City worker with genuine history has at least an equal right to be heard. The City is living in the past and has now to awaken. New members of Common Council must forget their joy at being elected, stop feeling inferior to Aldermen, and use their status to campaign for thousands of workers who are in the City of London to gain a vote in its government.

### EU REFERENDUM – IN OR OUT

"Not a leap in the dark, but a stride in the light."

*Ian Duncan Smith*

"I have great confidence that Britain and the British people could thrive outside the EU. I am not afraid all will be lost. Indeed, I am confident we have much more to gain from the outward-looking, entrepreneurial spirit that has long defined us, than if we stay bickering, fighting and losing within a political structure that is wholly unnatural to us".

*Helena Morrissey, Chief Executive, Newton Investment*

"The UK is one of the largest economies in the world with ties to every continent. The idea that it could not exist without being part of a failing EU project is absurd."

*Sir John Mills, Labour Party Donor*

"The dynamism and resilience of the City of London and the UK business sector suggests to me that, in the long run, we have the capacity and capability to create a bright, if not brighter, economic future outside of the EU - just as we would have done had we had the opportunity to stay in a truly reformed Europe."

*John Longworth*

*Former Head of the British Chambers of Commerce*

"The question being asked seems to be whether we could cope on our own at all. Why they would seek to present our country, and themselves, as so weak is beyond me."

*Iain Duncan Smith*

## BORIS OUT AND ABOUT

Alexander Boris de Pfeffel Johnson was born in 1964 in New York City and came to England with his parents soon after. We know him as Boris, Mayor of London, who has finally moved off a shaky fence and in truth declared his campaign to become Tory Leader and potential Prime Minister. His decision to back the Out campaign in opposition to his friend and colleague David Cameron reveals much of the man. An overview of his life and background reads like a Hollywood script.

Boris began his challenge to David Cameron at Smithfield Market as a guest of the SMTA at breakfast in the "Butchers Hook and Cleaver" when campaigning to be Mayor and sought publicity from the media who duly obliged. He was elected Mayor in 2008. He defeated Ken Livingstone who also had a pub breakfast with the SMTA before becoming Mayor.

Educated at the European School Brussels, Ashdown House then on to Eton College where he was a King's Scholar. He was President of the Oxford Union and member of the Bullingdon Club together with David Cameron. In 1987 he married Allegra Mosteyn-Owen, the marriage was later dissolved. In 1993 he married his current wife Marina Wheeler, daughter of Sir Charles Wheeler. They have two sons and two daughters. His grandfather and great aunt took their grandmother's name Johnson during WWI and were recognised as British subjects. His great grandfather Ali Kemal Bey, Turkish journalist and liberal politician was kidnapped in 1922 and brutally murdered during the Turkish War of Independence.

Boris is a descendent of King George II of Great Britain and all the previous royal houses through his father's grandmother Marie Louise de Pfeffel a descendent of Prince Paul of Wurttemberg and his relationship with a German actress. As a journalist, Boris began at the Times then the Telegraph as assistant editor later editor of the Spectator in 1999. In 2001 he was elected MP for Henley succeeding Michael Heseltine. 2003 vice-chairman Conservative Party, 2004 shadow minister for the Arts sacked by Tory leader Michael Howard after accusations he lied about an alleged affair with Petronella Wyatt, daughter of Woodrow Wyatt.

Cameron put Boris on his front bench as shadow minister for higher education. In 2006 Boris was accused of another extra-marital affair with News of the World and Times Higher Education Supplement editor Anna Fazackerley. David Cameron retained him as shadow minister, judging it a private matter. He has written a number of books and describes himself as a "one-man melting pot" a combination of Muslims, Jews and Christians. How that fits in with his support for the Out campaign on an anti-immigration policy he has yet to explain. One thing we know is that even if he gets OUT he will always be IN the news.

## SMITHFIELD MEMORIES 1

"You boys shouldn't be here, they ought to find you a better place." The kindly, middle-aged lady dishing out the evening meal at the hostel was concerned that I and my fellow college student, Chris Saul, were having to live with the poorest of the poor in what seemed to be an old police station just off Gray's Inn Road in Mount Pleasant, London WC1. Certainly our bedrooms were former prisoners' cells and the doors would only open half way as the beds stopped them. I didn't mind as I was only too pleased to be in London studying meat technology after training at Lloyd Maunder's slaughterhouse in Willand, Devon and the hostel was £3 13s 0d a week for three meals a day!

Not long after we arrived, we students decided that the college would no longer be known by its official title "The College of Distributive Trades" but enjoy the name "Smithfield College". We devised a new blazer badge and scarf and had them made up by Lyles in the beautiful Tudor buildings at Chancery Lane tube. We chose the colours of blue and yellow deliberately avoiding red which we thought would be a bit of a cliché. It was a truly great place to study with some wonderful tutors led by that doyen of meat trade education, the late Fred Mallion. Freddie was more than a principal: he was a father-figure and you felt that he believed in the pastoral care of students as much as the technical training. Fred found Chris and myself new quarters. "Why don't you call round to Ma Jones on the corner, she takes in students." Sound advice. Mrs Jones ran the dairy on the corner of Albion Place and Britton Street. Chris and I shared the first floor, which, like the others, was curved due to the bombing in the war.

Fred was also concerned that, of all the students, I was the only one who did not go home each Friday night because I could not afford to. He gave me a job as an assistant school-keeper to the stern and formidable Mr Blumstead from Southfields. So I earned over £300 a term arriving at 6am to stoke the coke boilers, change the towels, sweep up etc and the same in the evening from 4.30 to 7.30pm. Under the careful eye of Mr Beckley, we had several periods a week developing our butchery skills, well nearly. Our test bed was most often de-boning clod and stickings supplied by Woodhouse Hume, so variety was not really the spice of cutting! However, we enjoyed preparing the traditional boar's head for the new Lord Mayor of London and taking part in the Royal Smithfield Show at Earls Court – some of the happiest memories for me in London. At break time we usually went to the Italian cafe opposite Canning's in St John Street. Although dressed in blood-stained coats we were welcomed there. "Tea and two toast boys?" was the frequent welcome. One day, pulling his arm into the white coat and gripping a pig's trotter, one student, proffered his two shilling coin fixed between the trotter's claw. Our poor Italian lady host fainted!

*John Bolt*

## NATIONAL BUTCHERS' WEEK 2016 IS HERE

National Butchers' Week 2016 attracted major attention with the public supporting their local butcher. Organised by Meat Trades Journal and taking place on 14-20 March, independent butchers have been getting behind the most important week in the industry's calendar. This comes as AHDB Beef & Lamb research revealed that independent butchers delivered £2.3bn in turnover and £555m in gross added value in England alone in 2015.

The study, conducted by Trends Business Research (TBR) also indicated that one in every 400 firms in England is an independent butcher. In addition, they accounted for one in every nine jobs outside of the retail multiples, a report for the levy body has claimed. To support National Butchers' Week 2016, some butchers created new products especially for the week while others held cookery demonstrations to show how consumers can make the most of the meat they buy while not breaking the bank.

Rod Addy, editor of Meat Trades Journal, said: "Never before have butchers been in a better position to capitalise on consumers' desire to shop outside big mainstream retailers and try out new things. For example, the rise in popularity of eating out over the past few years and the need to save cash has led shoppers to reduce restaurant bills by recreating the dining out experience at home. Butchers, many of whom now supply restaurants directly or offer a restaurant service themselves, are ideally placed to capitalise on that trend."

He added that more independent meat traders are increasingly offering ready-to-eat and added-value products requiring less preparation to capitalise on consumer trends. "This week is all about showing why you're at the cutting edge of the latest market developments, why you're sexy." *Aidan Fortune*

## APRIL MILESTONES

The diamond is the birthstone for the month of April. The daisy, symbol of innocence, and the sweet pea are the flowers of the month. In the Zodiac, the month is covered by Aries, March 21 to April 19 and Taurus, April 20 to May 20.

Important anniversaries include Noah Webster copyrighting his dictionary on 14 April 1828, the birth of Leonardo da Vinci on 15 April 15, the birth of William Shakespeare in April 1564 and his death on 23 April 1616. St George, patron saint of England, is also celebrated on 23 April.

## CYCLE SUPERHIGHWAY EXTENSION

Most readers will have been affected by the havoc being caused on the roads in London by the construction of the North-South and East-West Cycle Superhighways. Much of the current work is due to be completed by the summer. Recently concerns have been raised about the closure of Tudor Street at New Bridge Street, just north of Blackfriars Bridge. Inner and Middle Temple opposed the closure during the consultation as it is the main route for vehicular traffic to their buildings and they consider the alternative not to be viable. Nevertheless and despite last ditch attempts to keep the road open, the City of London have decided to go ahead with the closure on an experimental basis, for a period of at least six months. Efforts are still ongoing to reverse this decision.

Meanwhile, at Smithfield Market, there have been concerns about the plans for the Central London Grid (also called quietways) and the North-South Cycle Superhighway extension. The quietway, despite modifications, still involves contra-flow cycle lanes on one way streets and the loss of Market loading bays near the Poultry Market and General Market buildings, as well as a reduction from two lanes to one of Snow Hill at the junction with Farringdon Street. Plans for the Superhighway extension north from Stonecutter Street involve splitting the cycle lane at Stonecutter Street so that instead of continuing two-way up the west side of Farringdon Street, there will be a cycle lane on either side of the road. The combined proposals could have a serious impact on traffic exiting the Market area at Snow Hill. The SMTA invited Deputy Mayor of London, Roger Evans, to visit the Market on 15 February to look at the problem and a meeting with Leon Daniels, MD of Surface Transport at TfL takes place on 30 March.

## WHAT IS A LEAP YEAR?

Leap years occur nearly every four years to synchronise the calendar year and the solar year. It takes the earth approximately 365 days 5 hours and 48 minutes to circle once around the sun. The Gregorian calendar, however, has exactly 365 days. The solution is to add an extra day – 29 February - nearly every four years. Leap years are years that can be divided by four, but years that can be divided by one hundred are not leap years unless they are also divisible by four hundred.

### **Robert Wilson**

Having moved from his position as Superintendent at Smithfield Market last summer to take up the same role at New Spitalfields, Robert retired from that role in March. We wish him well in his retirement.

## ST BRIDE'S CHURCH

At the foot of Fleet Street where once powerful newspapers dwelt and grew to political heights, St Bride's Church with its wedding cake steeple cuddles Ludgate and challenges the dominance of St Paul's Cathedral. Here it was that Rupert Murdoch, 84, probably Fleet Street's most famous journalist, most appropriately wed Jerry Hall, 69, ex-wife of Mick Jagger in the church that claims to be the "spiritual home of the media". Mick wasn't well pleased. Being a leap year, one is tempted to wonder if Jerry knelt.

The church steeple at 226 feet is Christopher Wren's second highest, only St Paul's is higher. It is believed to have been the inspiration for William Rich, a baker on Ludgate Hill, to create the tiered wedding cake which still remains an essential wedding item. In the depths however are Roman remains discovered following the Blitz which devastated the church and which are available for visitors to examine.

The origins of St Bride are seldom referred to and perhaps unknown to most. St Bride, an Irish nun and abbess, is also known as St Brigid in Scotland and Ireland. It is said that at her blessing St Mel accidentally read the rites of consecration of a bishop, which once read were irrevocable. St Bride became the patron saint of Ireland and also the patron saint of many groups including babies, poets, scholars, boatmen and poultry farmers! Nevertheless, St Patrick remains Ireland's most revered saint. His feast day is celebrated on 17 March.

## WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE – POET AND PLAYWRIGHT OF THE WORLD

This year, 400 years after his death, Shakespeare, known all over the world as the "Bard" is especially remembered. Despite millions being aware of his catalogue of works including 154 sonnets and 38 plays which have been translated into every modern language, as well as Klingon, many are unaware of the influence he has on everyday vocabulary.

In our speech we continually use his words and phrases - "the long and short of it" - "as luck would have it" - "the better part of valour" - "forever and a day" - "what's in a name" - "in my mind's eye". The title of the popular TV series "The darling buds of May" is taken from Shakespeare's Sonnet 18.

Just a short journey from Smithfield to the south side of the River Thames is the rebuilt Globe theatre close to the site of the original theatre constructed by Shakespeare in 1599, where you can today enjoy performances of many of his plays as they were originally envisaged.

# THE SMITHFIELD GAZETTE

wishes readers a

## Happy Easter

## Smithfield Meat Market

open to the trade and the public all year round  
for top quality meat at unbelievable prices

poultry – game – pork – lamb – beef – offal  
sausages – bacon – other provisions – halal

open 2am to 8am Monday to Friday

free car parking for market customers daily from  
Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March until Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March  
for those entering after 9pm and leaving before noon the following day

(the Market is closed from 8am on 24<sup>th</sup> March reopening at 2am on 29<sup>th</sup> March)



[www.smithfieldmarket.com](http://www.smithfieldmarket.com)

## Members of the Smithfield Market Tenants' Association

### Abbijoe Ltd

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Fax: 020 7329 2401  
E: keithdr@sky.com

### George Abrahams Ltd

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Fax: 020 7248 3313  
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### B J Meats Ltd

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Fax: 020 7236 7824

### James Burden Ltd

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Phone: 020 7248 2388  
Fax: 020 7236 2411

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Phone: 020 7248 0121  
Fax: 020 7329 0584

219 Central Market  
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Fax: 020 7236 2699  
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### Central Meat (Smithfield) Ltd

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### Channel Meats Ltd

31/33 West Market Building  
Phone: 020 7236 0082  
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E: channelmeats@aol.com

### D.P. Meats (Alford & Ford Ltd)

16 East Market Building  
Phone: 020 7248 0285  
Fax: 020 7236 4173  
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### Darmenn & Curl Ltd

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E: darmenn.curl@btconnect.com

### Denton Brothers (Smithfield)

220 Central Markets  
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### J. F. Edwards (Smithfield) Ltd

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Fax: 020 7248 4359  
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and Shops 28, 34, 38, 207 & 208

### Finclass Ltd

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Phone: 020 7329 4779  
Fax: 020 7329 0271  
E: sales@finclass.co.uk

### G & E Meats Ltd

36 West Market Building  
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### H & C Meats (Smithfield) Ltd

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Phone: 020 7236 0155/3913  
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E: sales@handcmeats.co.uk

### Icefront Ltd t/a Gordon Meats

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### Keevil & Keevil

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Fax: 020 7329 0402  
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E: info@keevils.co.uk

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### G. Lawrence Wholesale Meat Co. Ltd

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### Reeve & Co. Ltd

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Fax: 020 7236 4032

### Rhonda Meats Ltd

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Fax: 020 7248 2300  
E:tom.green@rhondameats.co.uk

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Fax: 020 7489 0941  
E:mark@hsmithsmithfield.com.uk

### Peter Thompson Group Ltd

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Fax: 020 7236 3414  
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### Vixelli

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### William Warman & Guttridge Ltd

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and Shop 6

## **THE GREATEST AMERICAN PRESIDENT?**

Theodore Roosevelt was truly an amazing man who started life as a weakling, refused to accept his frailties and became one of the strongest, most powerful men in the World. America, in its Presidential elections, bares the innermost thoughts of its citizens and startles the rest of the world. Are the leading runners sufficiently able to deal with America's critics, avoid danger and embrace peace?

Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt was born of wealthy parents in 1858 New York where he was Governor before becoming 26<sup>th</sup> President aged 42, the youngest ever at the time following the assassination of President McKinley. He won the Nobel Prize for helping end the Russo-Japanese war, but was a warrior and military leader. Roosevelt held various positions including captain of the National Guard and minority leader of the New York assembly but after both his mother and his wife died on the same day, shattered, he left for Dakota where he lived as a cowboy rancher until returning to politics in 1886 becoming civil service commissioner, New York City police commissioner and then Navy assistant secretary under President McKinley.

During the Spanish-American war Roosevelt left government to organise a volunteer cavalry, the "Rough Riders" which he led in the charge up San Juan Hill in the battle of San Juan Heights in 1898. He was nominated for the Congressional Medal of Honour and elected governor of New York. As President Roosevelt he created the "Square Deal" to help the middle class, boosted the Navy and was the prime mover in completing the Panama Canal. He is recognized as the first modern president because in part he tackled problems we still deal with. He supported civil rights and was the first to entertain an African-American guest to the White House.

An environmentalist, he signed the National Monuments Act protecting the Grand Canyon, countless wildlife sanctuaries, forests, game reserves and instigated 21 irrigation projects. The White House was so named when he had that name printed on all his stationery. Leaving office in 1909 he went to Africa on safari and was an ambassador to the funeral of King Edward VII. He returned to set up the Bull Moose Party to campaign for the 1912 election which he lost to Woodrow Wilson. During his campaign he was shot in the chest in an assassination attempt but continued his election speech for 90 Minutes before seeing a doctor and said it was "a hazard of the business". In 1914, frustrated with Wilson's stance on neutrality, he asked permission to head a volunteer group to fight in France but Wilson refused. Roosevelt published more than 25 books on history, biology, geography and philosophy. He also published a biography and an autobiography. He died in 1919 aged 60 at Sagamore Hill, Long Island. 100 years after he was the first president to receive the Congressional Medal of Honour. His energy, vision and foresight in saving millions of acres of national forest and parkland can be viewed on top of Mount Rushmore where his visage is carved in memorial.

## **SMITHFIELD MARKET APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME**

Several employers at Smithfield Market will be recruiting apprentices to start work as cutters or salesmen in September 2016.

The average working week is 35 hours and it will be mainly night shifts, so it is ideal for candidates aged 18 or over.

To express an interest please contact

[smta.smithfield@btconnect.com](mailto:smta.smithfield@btconnect.com)

"You cannot base a decent social policy on an unsustainable economic policy and we cannot outsource economic policy to the City of London, that has not served our economy well, and it has not served businesses well. The banking sector has to be reformed. Finance must support the economy, not be an extractive industry treating consumers, entrepreneurs and businesses as cash cows."

*Jeremy Corbyn*

## **GAZETTE BY EMAIL**

If you would prefer to receive the Gazette by email, please email us to request this at [smta.smithfield@btconnect.com](mailto:smta.smithfield@btconnect.com)

## **BOOST YOUR B12**

People with low vitamin B12 are 70% more likely to suffer severe depression than those without a deficiency. In one study of 12 depressed patients, doctors prescribed 500 mcg tablets of vitamin B12 twice per day. We need a primal diet to get enough B12 which is found almost exclusively in animal products. Foods like beef, liver and lamb are the best sources. As we age the less able we are to absorb vitamins. To supplement, some studies recommend taking up to as much as 2000 mcg per day to improve brain function.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Good luck and best wishes to Kevin Walsh** of Longcroft and Old who retires in March. Kevin has spent some 45 years working at the Market and served on the Council of the Smithfield Market Tenants' Association from 2002 and as Treasurer from 2002 to 2011.

**Poppy Appeal** - poppy sales from the Security Office at the Market last November raised £570.97.

**Toby Carveries, with 174 sites, state that** "The roast dinner is a staple of British society. Britons know we are the home of the roast" - in response to Wetherspoons' decision to stop serving Sunday roasts, causing an uproar.

**Two new Councilmen** – Anne Fairweather was elected for Tower Ward and Dominic Christian for Lime Street in elections on 16 March.

### **Colin Cullimore**

Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Butchers, has died. A memorial service to celebrate his life will be held at Lincoln Cathedral on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 12 noon.

### **John Fuller**

former Director of the NFMFT, has died aged 76. Previously he had worked as assistant to Douglas Noakes while he was Superintendent of Smithfield Market.

**The Smithfield Gazette** invites tenants, staff and others to forward items for inclusion in the Gazette. These could be personal or company news and events or anything else you might care to write about. Your stories are of great interest to your colleagues and will go unnoticed without your input. Who's getting married? Is there a new baby? Are you looking for sponsorship for a charity event?

Let us know by email

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or by mail to

225 Central Markets, London EC1A 9LH

## DIARY

13 Apr SMTA AGM

20 Apr SMTA Council Meeting

11 May Markets Committee Visit to Smithfield

11 May Markets Committee Meeting

18 May SMTA Council Meeting

22 June SMTA Council Meeting

## TAIL PIECE

JESUS! exclaimed God; though whether as an exclamation or a name-call was unclear but the beloved only son was swift to respond even though his left ear was somewhat overtaxed due to a long term right hand sitting position.

"Sire" he replied, "What do you want of me?" .... "It's Easter, does our man in Rome continue to espouse the view that my favoured sphere is flat?"

Still somewhat giddy after life on earth, vacating his tomb, walking on water, turning it into wine, raising men from the dead and other miracles, the super star paused before answering. "Indeed he does, Father, he is concerned with an Italian navigator who defies his judgement". "Who is this individual" "Christopher Columbus sire, who may be our way forward". "How would that be?" "If we change horizons we need a navigator of merit; this could be our man". The ghostly third member of the heavenly cabinet supported this view.

Down where the banished children of Eve await the kingdom to come, the man selected by the triad, having discovered his promised land, is now out of favour, a virtual outcast. In a cafe he overhears a group of men. "Anyone could have made such a journey, all knew the world was a globe".

Columbus now aroused, picked up an egg and addressed them thus: "Can you balance this on its end and allow it to remain upright?" Each member of the group tried to balance the egg but always it toppled and fell. Columbus took the egg which cracked open as a symbol of an empty tomb, smashed it onto the table where it stood upright and proud. "Anyone could have done that" said those involved, angrily, "Of course" said Columbus, "Now I've shown you how".

As America goes through the pain of delivering its next President, the world prays the newly born will be as heavenly a choice as Columbus surely was, despite being denied the honour of his name to title his discovery.

The Easter message is clear. Celebrate new life. Believe in yourself, accept slights of critics, have courage to speak out to help those less able. Plaudits are not guaranteed!

*Yours as ever,*

*Fred*