

**From:** Fowler, David  
**Sent:** 20 September 2016 08:15  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** FW: 2016/4605/P, Town Hall Extension Argyle Street London WC1H 8NN



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**From:** Richenda Walford [mailto: [REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** 19 September 2016 12:04  
**To:** Fowler, David  
**Cc:** Bill Reed [REDACTED] Bloomsbury Conservation Area Advisory Committee  
**Subject:** 2016/4605/P, Town Hall Extension Argyle Street London WC1H 8NN

David

Following our phone call today, I concur with everything Bill has written about this application and I add the support of Bloomsbury Conservation Area Advisory Committee. We are all concerned that Camden will underestimate the way in which noise travels in unpredictable ways and so I add here below, in italics, the evidence of Professor Trevor Cox:

*On 1 July 2016 I heard a radio programme which explored the way sound travels. It was on the extended podcast version of The Infinite Monkey Cage, episode "The Sound of Music".*

*The speaker is Trevor Cox, whose [website](#) says "I am a Professor of Acoustic Engineering at the University of Salford where I carry out research and teaching focussing on architectural acoustics, signal processing and audio perception." I've captured the relevant section of the programme and*

can send it you wish - it's the first 90 seconds of the recording. The sections below, in quotation marks, are exact transcriptions of what this eminent scientist said.

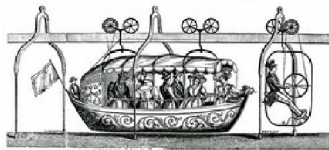
*The episode is recorded at the Glastonbury Festival and Cox is asked about the difficulties of managing sound at an exterior event. He explains "the big problem you get at festivals is meteorological effects." Weather affects the sound. The sound can be refracted, it can bend. Temperature inversions (e.g. cold air trapped air near the ground) cause "sound which should be going up to the air and disappearing actually bending down and coming back down later and that causes problems, say if you are near a festival in a house you can cause noise problems. Sound travels huge distances, though unexpected, even though at the stage it may be relatively quiet." He goes on to say that wind can also move the sounds to where it was not expected to be. He does not mention the echo effect down a street lined with buildings, presumably because that is not an issue at festivals.*

Please ensure that the use of the Annexe roof terrace is restricted, as was originally agreed, to the Euston Road side.

Thank you

**Richenda Walford**

Secretary of the Friends of Argyle Square, [REDACTED]



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