

Brain of London evenings @ The Alexandra Park Club

As you know, the Brain of London events will take place at the Alexandra Park Club, N22, on Tuesday 2 April (BoL1) and Tuesday 9 April (BoL2), with a prompt start at 7.30pm.

Please arrive and register by 7.15pm. The entry fee will be £5 plus £3 for food.

If you find you are going to be slightly later than 7.15, please text 07984 434727 or 07715 174925 with your ETA, and we will endeavour to keep your place open for a little longer.

For those of you who have not been to AP before, it can be a *little* taxing to find, but it's basically pretty straightforward.

Train

The easiest way to get to the club from central London is to take the train from **Moorgate** to **Alexandra Palace** station (AAP). Intermediate stations include interchanges with the tube at Old Street, Highbury and Islington (the best, as the two lines are on adjacent platforms), and Finsbury Park. The timetable in the evening rush hour is somewhat irregular, but the maximum *timetabled* gap is 15 minutes, and it's often rather less. The last departure from Moorgate recommended for timely arrival at the club is the 1843 hrs, which gets in at 1903, though delays are possible at that time in the evening. The journey takes 20 minutes from Moorgate, and Alexandra Palace station is in Zone 3.

Trains back to central London from Alexandra Palace nowadays run through to Moorgate all evening, rather than switching to King's Cross after a certain time. Trains leave Alexandra Palace at 03, 15, 33 and 45 minutes past the hour, give or take a minute. The last train is at 0015, but we'll have kicked you out by then.

Those heading northbound at the end of the evening can take services on the Hatfield and Welwyn line or the Hertford and Stevenage line until slightly later, or you can change at Finsbury Park for the likes of Cambridge and Peterborough.

Tube

Wood Green tube station (Piccadilly Line, Zone 3) is about 15 minutes' walk from the club, taking the blue line on [this new-for-2016 map](#), and going over the footbridge at Alexandra Palace station. Alternatively, you can take the W3 bus from Wood Green (stop marked on map) to the stop on the west side of the station (Bedford Road, marked). If you start going up the steep hill towards the Palace itself, you've gone too far.

The walk

The walk from Alexandra Palace station to the club takes about 4 minutes. It takes you into Alexandra Park, following the western bit of the blue line on [the map](#). Take the stairs up from the platform to the footbridge, turn right and exit station through ticket barriers. From the ticket office take the footbridge over the railway, uphill and turn left into Bedford Road. After about 100 yards, just after a small lay-by full of parked cars and before a sign welcoming you to Alexandra Palace, veer off the road, through the black and white posts that restrict large vehicle entry (marked with a very lifelike Chinese archway on the map) and along the car track into the park. After another 200 yards the track forks. Take the LEFT fork through the open white gate, and walk downhill along the path. 100 yards later, the path opens out into the club car park, and the main entrance to the club is ahead of you.

Night will have fallen by the time most people leave, and with it being in a park, the walk back to the station can be a bit dark – I find the light of a mobile phone enough to guide me, but then I've staggered up that path hundreds of times.

Driving

The club isn't that far from the North Circular Road at Colney Hatch Lane (to the west) or Bounds Green (to the east), though this stretch is one of the big pinch points, so at that time in the evening you will probably be better off getting off the North Circular earlier and fighting your way across from Finchley or Edmonton.

From central London the best route is usually via Old Street roundabout, New North Road, Southgate Road, Newington Green, Green Lanes, then round the back of Finsbury Park and up Wightman Road and Hornsey Park Road.

For satnav purposes, the club doesn't have a postcode, which is unhelpful, but the Palace itself is N22 7AY, and the row of shops on Bedford Road are N22 7AU, so drive between those points and look for the entrance to the park.

Miscellaneous

For those fancying a pint at another venue before or after (though, why would you?) the recommended local pubs are The Starting Gate (by the station) or the Three Compasses, (slightly further away, on Hornsey High Street, walking from here takes about 10 minutes, but entails crossing the ditch around the cricket ground, which can be entertaining if the weather's wet...). The latter has been refurbished lately and I've heard mixed reports. Of course, the bar at AP will be open before and after the event, and I encourage you to do any drinking there.

If anyone gets lost, call 07715 174925.