

# BLEAK HOUSE - 2019 UPDATE

A BRIGHT HISTORY REVISION FOR THE LESSEES

124 THE KING'S ROAD CHELSEA LONDON SW3 4TP

**“If you thought it couldn't get worse.....**

*Photos below: Considered appropriate and good management by one lessee and agreed by some others?*



NOW...AS PREFERRED BY CERTAIN LESSEES

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## The No Artworks Nor Topiary (ommunal Décor For the insane!

MITRE HOUSE was built in 1933 in a desirable area of London, five minutes from Sloane Square and featuring some impressive Portland stoneworks on the exterior facade and an imposing oak double front door and porch with granite surrounds entered direct from King's Road. There are nine flats/apartments, three on each of three floors with lift, above a parade of fashionable boutiques, but with a *McDonald's* opposite as opposed to, in the 60s, *The Chelsea Drugstore*.

The interior is both unique and highly individual, with various art deco original features, solid brass door furniture and fittings throughout, rich oak double wooden doors with copper paned glass frames and an attractive, if slightly worn, period terrazzo floor.

The period glazed Crittall windows throughout the communal areas have the original stained glass insets, which are replicated in areas of the nine flats within their spacious and unusually large interiors by today's standards.

The three residential floors are served by an elderly but attractive and spacious lift and the communal areas, following a recent total refurbishment in 2014 after decades of total neglect and disregard of the period's design integrity, now boasts 1930s style alabaster champagne glass chandeliers and lighting throughout, an authentic colour scheme of the 1930s era and a unique abundance of artworks, artifacts, plants and topiary on each landing.

At least until certain philistines who own properties at Mitre House but don't live at Mitre House, preferring to supplement the mediocrity of their



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**....believe me, it has, far worse?"**

*Photos below: Considered vulgar, cheap and unsuitable by one lessee and agreed by some others?*



AS OPPOSED TO - A TOUCH OF CLASS

GAME SET & MATCH

limited abilities by sub-letting, insisted on no artworks, no artifacts and no topiary (and to cap it all, no Christmas decorations over the festive period)... and requesting all be removed, which it has been, resulting in a décor more resembling *Bleak House* than Mitre House. Mais, c'est la vie.

Chelsea, before its recent intake of the nouveau riche, reliant on keeping up with their own particular Jones', was a haven for artistic and creative souls from around the world. As such, Mitre House maintained that tradition with many framed and impressive contemporary and modern works of art well exhibited throughout the building for the benefit of those increasingly rare owners who do have an appreciation of Chelsea's artistic and creative heritage, let alone art per se.

Regrettably Mitre House is no longer a home to a majority of owners and the new décor failed to educate or impress a few non-resident owners, one of whom considering it "vulgar, cheap and unsuitable" with zero comprehension whatsoever of the 1930s period nor its unique style.

For the benefit of those few lessees who bizarrely agreed to their dislike of the various artworks, artifacts, plants, Christmas decorations (and colourful dustbins!) exhibited throughout Mitre House and their tacit agreement to the removal of all, resulting in their valued real estate considerably dropping in both rental and sales value, now with a communal parts décor reminiscent of a

cheap *Chechen* motel, and quite oblivious that the artworks & prints displayed on all floors of Mitre House, with a gallery value in excess of £3500 for some items, included works by *Joe Tilson, Richard Hamilton, Alan Jones, Pat Nagel, Adrian George, Paul Klee, Jack Vettriano, Henri Matisse, W. Suidmak, Wassily Kandinsky, Amedeo Modigliani, Jim Dine, Mark Rothko, Georges Braque, Michael English, Pablo Picasso* and *Paul Brown-Constable of Flat 7...!*

Were these artworks on loan from the Tate, or the topiary from Kew Gardens, one doubts disapproval?

One also doubts their Joneses will be impressed with their perceived idea of no art nor topiary as a more suitable interior décor for **BLEAK HOUSE!**

## The Olde (ommunal Décor "Oh là là, Scandale" ...?

*(photos below left) The old interior before the recent refurbishment after decades of neglect and a total disregard of the period's design integrity, but regrettably the new décor was deemed "vulgar, cheap and unsuitable" by certain non-resident lessees who preferred white & taupe on the walls, a black lift, no artworks nor topiary and God forbid, no colourful dustbins nor Xmas decorations..!*

*Seems we failed to make "everybody happy"*

