

# MAKING THE COMMUNITY CENTRE WORK FOR RESIDENTS



## Community Centre News

December 2016



### What's been happening?

The Community Centre has been busy with more activities and the City have made a planning application to refurbish the building. We are not sure yet how long we will have until the builders move in but, if you have any ideas for events, please do start to organise them now. Jade Ibegbuna, our new Community Development Officer, is ready, willing and able to help develop your ideas.

### The Lord Mayor show

A very wet day didn't dampen the spirits of all who joined the float on the parade. After the parade, the float returned to the Estate for a photo opportunity before being dismantled. A party was then held in the Community Centre for the children who took part and residents alike.



A **big thank you** to all involved in both the workshops leading up to the Lord Mayor Show and on the day itself, to Tom McCarthy the residents' voice on the Community Centre Steering Group and a special thank you to Jane Lyster the artist whose ideas and designs she 'made happen' thus ensuring an exciting and magnificent float.

### Photography



We had a good session at the end of October when James took us around the Estate and to the Barbican to photograph the buildings, the autumn colours and the setting sun. He gave us more tips on camera exposure and composition and we had a plenty of interesting subjects to focus on - not to mention the Golden Lane squirrels enjoying themselves and showing off their tree climbing skills.

On 18<sup>th</sup> December, we used James's studio equipment to take each other's portraits. We had the opportunity of using James's professional camera as well as our own to take the photos from different angles in different lighting conditions. We hope that Keepmoat will continue their sponsorship of these great lessons and that we will be able to hold an exhibition of our work in the New Year.



### The Big Knit

The Big Knit is an annual fund raising event for Age UK. A number of ladies of all ages - and one man - attended the sessions and we made 18 hats on the day. A couple of the mothers in the knitting session said that they had had premature babies so, in the next session planned for the New Year, we are also going to knit hats for the Premature Baby Unit at ULCH. We have been told that these little hats are so appreciated and much needed by the new Mums and by the



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Unit itself. Watch out for more details on the notice boards and do come along - both beginners and experienced knitters welcomed.

## Drop in Sessions

In November our new Community Development Officer, Jade Ibegbuna, held a series of drop-in sessions in the Golden Lane Community Centre. We were all more than welcome to drop by for a cuppa and a natter, which was very well received and Jade has had requests to hold more drop-in sessions in the New Year. This has been a great way to meet Jade and for Jade to meet the Golden Lane residents who have shared some fantastic ideas about how they would like to shape the Golden Lane Community. If you would like to get in touch with Jade about ideas for Golden Lane Community Centre, then you can contact her direct on: [Jade.Ibegbuna@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:Jade.Ibegbuna@cityoflondon.gov.uk) or **0785 007 6826**.

## Christmas Market

The Christmas Craft Market was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December with a special appearance from Santa who came out of nowhere with his two elf helpers. Billy and Frank and gave out gifts to all the children.



There were 12 stalls selling a



wide range of crafts and presents for Christmas. A toy swap shop full of great toys and a rail of dressing up clothes run by Debs Phillips made over £200 for Crisis for Christmas.

Bev Bytheway sourced some wonderful prizes for the Tombola from Keepmoat, the Museum of London, Benugo, Waitrose, the Barbican Centre, Whites hairdresser, Kennedys, Fusion and some

local crafts people and artists including our own Buffy Davis. The proceeds from the sale of the tickets made enough money to cover all the costs of Santa's presents and the other costs of organising the event.

Maritza Schepp ran a great stall for children to make christmas decorations which they could take home with them.

Rachel Wheeler's pop-up Café was a runaway success making over £100 from the hot drinks and homemade cakes provided by the great bakers of the Estate. Judit, Andras, Tim, Dan and Lee did a great job serving and washing up on the day.



## Next year

### January 2017

**Golden Lane Tenant's Forum 12<sup>th</sup> January 6.00 -7.30** Update on the Housing Act. A talk and answers to your question by Simon Cribbens, Head of Strategy and Performance at the City of London

**Yoga** restarts on **12<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30**

**Brass Band Session 21<sup>st</sup> January** there will be a short brass band concert in the afternoon followed by tea and a chance for all budding musicians to try out the instruments. Age restrictions do not apply!

**Keep an eye on the notice boards for these events and more being planned**

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**Happy New Year!**