



Community Centre News

December 2017

From the Community Centre Steering Group.

Anne Corbett, Dawn Frampton, Patricia O'Connor, Bill Clifford, Tom McCarthy, Sue Pearson.

What a difference a year makes!

Last Christmas we had just celebrated a great fun but very wet, Lord Mayor's Show and a Christmas Market in the Community Centre. This year the Community Centre has been closed for refurbishment since September and during this time we have been working on plans for the reopening in Spring and have had a bit of fun on the way.

The Community Centre Refurbishment

At the beginning of December Quinn, the contractor, showed some of the Steering Group around the Community Centre so we could see how the new layout is taking shape. The building will have new double glazed windows and PV panels on the roof to make it energy efficient and will have different sized rooms to suit different activities. As the project progresses the contractors plan to arrange a further site visit in the New Year for anyone interested in taking a look. Completion is planned for the end of March when we can start fitting it out to create a great facility for residents and the local community.



The Locality Study and how the Community Centre could be managed in the future

Earlier in the year we secured a grant to commission a feasibility study to show how residents could run the Community Centre, and to produce a business case to convince the City. This was completed by Locality at the end of October and the resident steering group of tenants and leaseholders met with Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services at the City of London to discuss the proposal. This was met favourably, but as with any discussions, there is more for us to do to bring it to reality.

The first is to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), which means that we will have a number of Trustees (up to 10) who will take overall responsibility for the running of the Community Centre. There will also be an Advisory Group made up of residents, The City of London Officers and other key stakeholders who will make the strategic decisions on things like hiring and charging policy.

As this will take some time the City will recruit a Centre Manager to run the Centre for the first year. We have been involved in the job description and will be part of the recruitment process. During this transitional period the CIO will be working with the City to ensure a smooth handover. Our business case relies on raising funding from grants or other sources and we are now concentrating on this. We are looking for residents who might be interested in becoming a Trustee and will be holding a meeting on **January 16th** for all residents to update them on where we are and what we have to do next. More details nearer the date so keep an eye on the notice boards or on the Golden Lane website www.goldenlaneestate.org.





A Trip Down Golden Lane



On September 2nd, the weekend before the contractors moved in, Dawn Frampton organised a fantastic party with a swing dance demonstration and the opportunity for everyone to get up and join in, a magician for the children and grownups, a quiz and a wonderful spread for tea, jellied eels and cakes galore. This was followed in the evening by a silent disco hosted by our resident DJ Eray Morehouse. All who attended had a great time and we look forward to more of these events when the Centre reopens.

Christmas Market

Thank you to everyone who helped and attended the Christmas market on 9th December. We made an amazing **£400**, a fantastic start to our fundraising for the setting up of the Community Centre. This was made up from £238 from the Tombola that was organised this year by Bill and Christine Clifford. They had some wonderful prizes including three Christmas Hampers, a bottle of champagne and bottles of wine donated by contractors working on the Estate.



One of the hampers was not won and if you pop down to the Estate office this week it is being raffled and Laurence will draw the winner at 12 noon on Friday.



Dan, Claudia and Ella Ivy made £21 selling preloved toys and Maritza ran a great stall for children to make badges for 20p and donated £5.

Rachel Wheeler's Community Café was a runaway success making over £98 from the hot drinks and homemade cakes provided by the great bakers of the Estate. Sue, Anne, Anna, Maliya and Paul did a great job serving and washing up on the day.

Finally one of our resident artists Anne Stansfield sold postcards and some of her prints and donated her takings of £38 to the fund.

Keep an eye on the notice boards and website for events being planned in 2018

Email: goldenlane.communitycentre@gmail.com

Happy New Year!

