

TALK OF THAMESMEAD

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THAMESMEAD RESIDENTS



**ISSUE SIX
SUMMER
2022**



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HELLO THAMESMEAD!



John Lewis,
Executive Director,
Thamesmead, Peabody.

Welcome to the Summer Talk of Thamesmead.

After more than two years with few opportunities to come together because of lockdown, there's once again a huge amount going on in Thamesmead this summer.

Our extensive What's On section on Pages 8 to 12 lists all the amazing things happening in the town over the next few months, once again demonstrating Thamesmead's exceptional creativity and energy.

The highlight for many will be the much-loved Thamesmead Festival which returns on Saturday 20 August, with a tremendous line up of local talent on display. You can find out what to expect on Page 7.

Summer is of course the perfect time to enjoy all the beautiful green spaces and waterways that make Thamesmead such a unique place to live.

On Page 13 you'll find some great suggestions for activities that everyone can go out and enjoy and on Page 14 there's a fascinating profile about the Making Space for Nature team.

Led by our Landscape Activation Manager Jack Gower, they do so much to make Thamesmead's abundant nature and wildlife flourish – all powered by a great band of hard-working volunteers.

If you have your own ideas about how to make the most of nature on your doorstep why not apply for a grant from the Making Space for Nature Community Fund. Find out how on Page 15.

As always, if there's something you'd like to share with the rest of the Thamesmead community then let us know. Talk of Thamesmead is your newspaper, so please get in touch at thamesmeadnow@peabody.org.uk

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you out and about in the town this summer.

John

FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING

Do you want to find out more about what Peabody's team in Thamesmead has been doing and what's coming up? There are a number of ways you can stay in touch with developments.

Keep an eye on our website

www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk where we publish regular updates about our plans and share information about upcoming events.

Connect with our social channels

on Twitter and Facebook @ThamesmeadLDN and Instagram @thamesmeadnow to keep up to date with all things Thamesmead.

Sign up to our monthly online newsletter

via the 'Contact Us' section at www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk

If you have a question

you can: email us thamesmeadnow@peabody.org.uk, use the contact form on www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk or ring us on 020 3828 3671.

If you'd rather speak to someone in person

email thamesmeadnow@peabody.org.uk and we can arrange to meet you at The Nest – Community and Library Building, 3 Cygnet Square, SE2 9FA.

If you have a sales enquiry

you can visit our Marketing Suite and Discovery Centre from Tuesday to Saturday 10am-6pm and Thursday 11am-7pm by appointment only. Register your interest at www.peabodysales.co.uk and someone will be in touch.

NEW BOATING CLUB TO SET SAIL



Construction has begun of a new boating and sailing club at Southmere Lake, which is scheduled to open later this year.

When finished the club will be managed by YMCA Thames Gateway, who already run the café and the nursery at the nearby Lakeside Centre. They will deliver a varied programme of activities including sailing, kayaking and canoeing, mainly for local schools and other young people in the area.

The outside of the boating club will be covered in a perforated metal

material to reflect the lake and park, while the gardens surrounding it will be landscaped to blend into the local parkland.

The new boating and sailing club will complement the £2.5m that Peabody has already invested in Southmere Lake, improving the water quality, and creating a new wildlife habitat.

In addition to the boating club, Peabody is now working on a detailed planning application for a new lakefront development next to Cygnet Square, on the former Binsey Walk site. You can read more about it on Page 20.

CLICK TO FIX

Peabody has launched a new online service so residents can easily report any problems on streets and open spaces – such as fly-tipping, pest control and faulty public lighting.

Using FixMyStreet residents can now photograph, locate and highlight an issue using their mobile phone. All reports go to Peabody's environmental services team in Thamesmead, who will log the job and confirm when the problem has been resolved.

This is all part of Peabody's plan to improve the day-to-day experiences of residents and ensure Thamesmead is a place that people are proud to call home.



You can now report any environmental maintenance issues at www.fix.thamesmeadnow.org.uk

TICKET TO RIDE

Now the Elizabeth Line is open and the sun is (hopefully) shining, it's the perfect time to invite friends and family to Thamesmead to enjoy all the great things the town has to offer.

It's just 11 minutes from Canary Wharf, 25 minutes from Tottenham Court Road and 29 mins from Paddington to Abbey Wood station.

If you're looking for fun activities to invite your friends to, visit www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk where you'll find details about what's happening in Thamesmead this summer.



TACO'S DAY OF ACTION

In June, local arts organisation TACO! and artist Holly Graham hosted A DAY OF ACTION!, a day-long exploration of the Thamesmead community's anti-racist and activism work in the early 1990s.

More than 40 people, including local councillors, attended the event to conclude the first part of ACTION!, a project led by Holly, delivered by TACO!, and funded by the Black Culture Collective, Peabody and the Royal Borough of Greenwich.

The project aims to address the gap in storytelling about anti-racism in Thamesmead.

Speakers included activist Dev Barrah from Greenwich Action Committee Against Racist Attacks, Giles Gabon, Director of the Greenwich Inclusion Project, and Councillor Ann-Marie Cousins, talking about the Woolwich Simba Project.

The day ended with an open discussion, including local residents, about race, cultural relations and community organising in Southeast London, and how to remember what the people of Thamesmead achieved in fighting racism.

Holly and TACO! are still collecting material for the project and are asking for people to feed into the archive by donating items, contributing to the reading list, and sharing short oral histories.



If you have anything you'd like to contribute please contact info@taco.org.uk

LOCAL ARTIST BEGINS WORK AT THE CAGE



A former Thamesmead resident has won a £12,000 art commission to transform the iconic Cage basketball court in South Thamesmead.

Contemporary artist Joseph Ijoyemi's artwork, Believe and Achieve, is being created to promote confidence, hope and unity within The Cage, the multi-use games area underneath The Green Chain Walk.

It will feature vibrant colours and silhouettes of local people playing games, which Joseph will capture through workshops he's been running there. His final art piece will be painted in autumn 2022 and unveiled in Spring 2023.

Joseph's design was chosen by The Cage TM group, made up of local residents, who have been leading the commissioning process since 2019. Having shortlisted six artists from more than 30 applications, the group engaged young people and others in the community to choose their favourite artwork.

Joseph said: "I was raised in Thamesmead, so The Cage has huge sentimental value to me. I often met up with friends there to play basketball and football. Many of my memories stem from time spent at The Cage, some good, some not so good.

"For me, by making the space brighter it means your future is bright. It means that you're able to achieve whatever you desire. And that's what I want to achieve in this space. As a contemporary artist working in a collaborative way is key for me and to work with the community is precious."

Dominika Kieruzel, one of the local residents who judged the commission entries, added: "When Joseph came to our first site visit at The Cage he told us that his vision was for it to be really colourful and joyful. He has experience with mentoring kids and I love that he wants to engage with lots of young people for the design as well as the actual painting part of the installation."

The installation of Joseph's artwork will be carried out as part of a wider refurbishment of the space being delivered by muf architecture/art. This will include new sporting equipment, lighting, and seating – making it a vibrant, accessible, and welcoming place for people to enjoy.

You can follow the project's progress on Instagram [@the_cage_tm](https://www.instagram.com/the_cage_tm)



In June residents from across Thamesmead headed to Cygnet Square in Southmere to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

More than 400 local people enjoyed a fun-packed evening of entertainment, including live music, face-painting and street theatre.

As the sun went down, Cllr Teresa O'Neill, Leader of Bexley Council, lit a commemorative jubilee community beacon, delighting residents and other onlookers including Abena Opong-Asare MP and local ward councillors Zainab Asunramu, Olu Babatola and Lade Hephzibah Olugbemi.

The flame burned brightly outside The Nest, the state-of-the-art community building and library, which was bathed in red, white and blue lights specially for the occasion.

The event was organised by Three Rivers, Peabody and the London Borough of Bexley.



Photo by Lucy Dawkins

GET SOCIABLE

The Moorings Sociable Club is now open and this is your opportunity to tell us what you would like to see happening there.

Do you want to run an arts and crafts group, a coffee morning, a singing group, a support group? There is plenty of space and funding is available.

You can drop in to the club from Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm to chat through your idea, or email ThamesmeadCommunityTeam@peabody.org.uk.

While you're there you can even grab a drink and something to eat from the award-winning Back-a-Yard Grill, serving delicious Caribbean inspired street food.

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

Peabody is inviting all local community groups and voluntary sector organisations to showcase their great work in the first ever Community Directory for Thamesmead.

If you lead a community group, this is a great way to tell local residents a bit more about who you are, what your group does and where you are located.

Contact ThamesmeadCommunityTeam@peabody.org.uk to register your interest or find out more.

CALLING COMMUNITY LEADERS

Are you active in a Thamesmead community group? Do you work or volunteer for a voluntary or community organisation to support Thamesmead residents?

If this is you, Peabody would like to invite you to take part in local research. Your views will help to better understand and support active citizens and community organisations in Thamesmead.

You can take part by filling in a survey or participating in interviews and group discussions. An independent research company, Research Works Ltd, is doing this research on behalf of Peabody so everything you say will be confidential.

If you'd like to know more or take part, please email [Research Works at all@researchwork.co.uk](mailto:ResearchWorks@all@researchwork.co.uk)

LOCAL TALENT

TM

LIBRARY SAYS THANK YOU



Dear Residents of Thamesmead, Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Libris Borowicz and I am the Head Guardian of the Library of Everything.

If you haven't visited us before, the Library of Everything is a mystical travelling compendium that has been around for as long as people have been writing down stories and facts on paper and creating books.

Over many years the library has grown in size. From a humble bag to a horse and cart, to a caravan, to an armada of vehicles, all pieced and patched together.

There are now 314 floors, 28 sub-sections and 78 spiral side departments. From 1 to 1001 departments, covering every discipline imaginable; from horticulture to horology to hairstyling, from cars to cardigan construction to canines, from meteorology to medicine to magic and miscellaneous.

Fair to say, the library is a marvel to behold and myself and the other library Guardians count ourselves lucky to work within the collection. We travel all over the world collecting stories from both well-known authors and those ordinary folk who stumble across our hidden doorways.

The library often travels to places filled with curiosity. Only those with brilliant imaginations are invited into the library so we often land in primary schools! If visitors then write a story for our permanent collection, they become permanent members.

We have travelled all over. Just recently we journeyed from Australia to Argentina, then from Egypt to the United Kingdom and we're currently in South Africa! There are some places that we may visit many times, especially when it appears the surroundings are rich with imaginative storytellers. Thamesmead is one of these such places.

Recently we found ourselves back in Thamesmead within the halls of the wonderful Heronsgate School. Having visited Linton Mead and Hawkmoor in the past, we knew that we were bound to be in a place brimming with brilliant writers!

We were not wrong. Fellow Library Guardians, Gillian and Avery, sent me regular communications to update me on the fantastic visitors to the library. We are so impressed by the quality of story writers that you have in Thamesmead we are in initial conversations to set-up a Department of Tales from Thamesmead in the library. We definitely have enough to fill many bookshelves!

I wanted to say a massive thank you to the children of Thamesmead for all of the wonderful stories that you have contributed to the Library of Everything so far.

As Head Guardian of the library I often get sent new stories to read and I must say that yours have been some of the most astounding I have encountered.

Brilliant plot twists and creative characters have kept me on the edge of my seat, reading into the early hours. It is an honour to have you all as authorised permanent members of the library and it is so exciting that you are now published authors within our many departments!

On behalf of all the Library Guardians we look forward to reading any future stories you may send us and we hope we may get to visit Thamesmead again one day. Please do keep on reading and writing. It is clear you have the most majestic of imaginations!

All the best,
Libris Borowicz,
Head Guardian



Thamesmead Festival, the town's annual celebration of its rich and diverse cultural life, is back this summer, bigger and better than ever before.

On Saturday 20 August, from 12pm to 7pm at Southmere Park, Thamesmead residents will be able to enjoy a programme packed full of home-grown talent, featuring live music, dance, performance, food and activities, as well as the much-anticipated annual dog show.

This year's event will see the return of its three main stages – the Park Stage, up on the hill; the Southmere Stage on Southmere Square and the more informal Unplugged Stage, among the trees in Southmere Park – showcasing music, spoken word, dance, magic and comedy.

The festival will welcome back Thamesmead-based street dance group Dynamix for a special performance and Greenwich Dance,

who recently relocated to The Nest community building, for their debut appearance.

A spectacular 25m high hot air balloon, tapestried with stories from Thamesmead, will be inflated and tethered on the festival site. Fields of EveryWhen is a collaborative artwork by artists Neil Musson and Jono Retallick and the Thamesmead community.

The festival will also feature community stalls run by local groups and charities, providing information about their work in the community, free workshops and activities for children and adults, and a mouth-watering menu of food and drink from across the world.

The entire festival is programmed and led by the Festival Production Group, a committee of 14 residents, representing Thamesmead's diverse cultures and neighbourhoods. They're working with acclaimed cultural event producers, Serious, who ran last year's fantastic event.

Deborah Frimpong, a Festival Production Group member and Chair of the Moorings Neighbourhood Forum, said: "What an opportunity to see Thamesmead recognised for all the good things that are happening here.

"The festival is a unique and special showcase that not only brings the four areas of Thamesmead together but also draws in the wider community. I'm really looking forward to an exceptional time celebrating, sharing, and basking in the company of friends, family and local talents."

Adriana Marques, Peabody's Head of Thamesmead Cultural Strategy, added: "The festival is community leadership at its best - a fantastic day of music, arts, community groups and markets that reflect Thamesmead's unique spirit. It is an annual moment to celebrate this wonderful town and invite visitors to witness it in all its vibrant glory."

PUNCHDRUNK ENRICHMENT

Punchdrunk Enrichment is a charity creating transformational theatrical experiences for education, community and family audiences.

It devises immersive productions and projects that have a powerful impact by placing people at the heart of an unforgettable journey. Through their adventurous, high-quality approach to storytelling they champion the imagination.

Punchdrunk Enrichment discovered the fictional 'Library of Everything' many years ago and have been helping to bring it to schools and families ever since.

It is working with the Linton Mead, Hawkmoor and Heronsgate schools in Thamesmead with the support of Peabody and the Royal Borough of Greenwich.



To find out more about Punchdrunk Enrichment's work for families and children please visit www.punchdrunkenrichment.org.uk

WHAT'S GOING ON

TM

SUMMER IN THAMESMEAD

JULY



'Story Corner' reading sessions

Every Monday between 12pm – 1pm
Thamesmere Library, SE28 8DT

Peabody is working with Greenwich Leisure Limited and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to encourage a love of reading in children under five years old. When you sign up, your children will receive a free book each month and you'll be invited to visit our reading corners to join fun family activities. To qualify for free books, you must be a Peabody resident and live in Thamesmead.

For more information or to register your place, please email waterways@gll.org

This programme is generously supported with funding from VINCI Facilities.

Thamesmead Yarn Tales

Every Monday until 10 Sept (no session on 1 & 8 August)

10.45am-12.15pm

Moorings Sociable Club, SE28 8BG

Come together to craft, knit, crochet something beautiful (or just 'natter') and take part in our 'Meet - Craft - Share. Everyone is welcome, get inspired and inspire others. A tutor will be on hand to help you with your questions.



Biodiversity Action Volunteers

8 July and 19 July, 10am – 2pm

Crossway Park, SE28 8NG

Meeting Place: Crossway Community Orchard (woodland behind basketball courts)

We will be helping with the maintenance and management of Crossway Community Orchard. We will cut and rake the grassland within the orchard and cut back the bramble encroaching into the orchard floor.

Contact msfn@peabody.org.uk for more information or to let us know you are attending.

Woolwich Words & Sounds in Gallions Park

16 July, 12 – 7pm

Gallions Park

Cost: Free

Woolwich Works will be hosting a summer day festival of live music and spoken word, with family events at Gallions Park.

Expect music from Dollars Trio, written and produced by members of Bonobo Live and Gorillaz, and the world-renowned drummer, composer, producer and beatmaker, Myele Manzanza. There will be delicious food from local vendors, as well as events such as hula hooping workshop for the whole family. Plus much more!



Peabody Hot Topics: Manage your Wellbeing and build a Healthy Mindset

20 July, 4pm – 5pm

Cost: Free

Free 1-hour online session, delivered over Zoom, open to anyone interested in the topic.



To find out more and register, please scan the QR code



Outdoor Swimming at Birchmere Lake

23 July, 13 August, 9am – 4pm

Birchmere Lake, SE28 8DQ

Cost: Free

Experienced swimmers are invited to swim in Birchmere Lake during this outdoor swimming event.

The Making Space for Nature team are trialling swimming on the lake this summer and are keen to know your thoughts. Booking will be essential to secure a spot, but some slots will be available for swimmers to turn up on the day.

Contact msfn@peabody.org.uk or visit www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk for more information, including details on how to book a slot.



Access Sport Inclusive Sports Festival

24 July, 11am – 1pm

Sporting Club Thamesmead, SE28 8NJ

Free pan-disability sports day for deaf, disabled and neurodivergent children aged 6-16 years and their families (siblings welcome). Come and try a mixture of different inclusive sports and activities including dance, frame football, boxing, yoga, and multi-sports. No previous experience required.

Register at <https://bit.ly/InclusiveSportsFest-SignUp> or contact disability.inclusion@accesssport.co.uk 020 7993 9883



Weekly Boxing Sessions with Power Mobile Gym

Every Monday from 25 July – 29 August

3pm – 5pm

Moorings Sociable Club, SE28 8BG

Cost: Free

Power Mobile Gym will be working together with Parent Power to deliver the Thrive Programme for Thamesmead residents. A mix of physical and mental fitness, designed to improve confidence, self-esteem and help you have fun!

Young People aged 14-25 can sign up for their free place by contacting nadia.kassab@peabody.org.uk



Open Morning at Tump 53 Nature Reserve

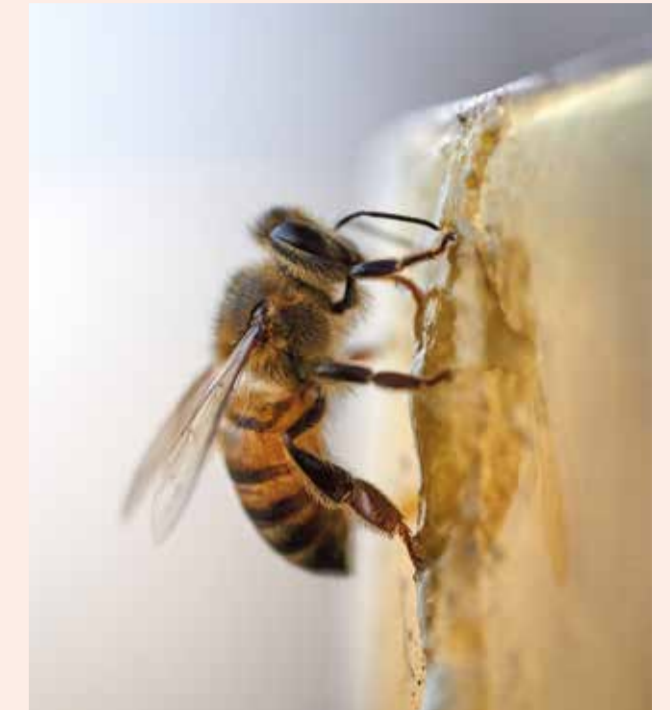
26 July, 2/9/16/23 August 10am – 12pm

Tump 53, Water Lily Walk, Thamesmead, SE28 8AS (between Bentham Road and Claridge Way)

Tump 53 is a highly valued community space that connects children, young people, and the wider community with nature and the environment in the Moorings, Thamesmead.

Tump 53 will be open every Tuesday morning for people to come and explore in partnership with GLL Waterways Children's Centre. Simple activities will be prepared for children and families.

No booking required, contact msfn@peabody.org.uk for more information.



Help us record birds, bats and bees in South Thamesmead

28 July & 19 August

Meeting Point: Southmere Square, Southmere Park, London SE2 9XA

Making Space for Nature supported by CLEVER Cities are hosting a day of wildlife discovery in South Thamesmead.

Dawn Chorus 5am – 7am

Early birds are welcome to come and identify birdsong during the dawn chorus. No experience needed.

Family Bird watching walk 10am – 11am

Butterfly/Pollinator Workshop 1pm – 2:30pm
Come and learn about the various pollinators flying around Southmere and Abbey Way on a walking tour and talk.

Sunset Bird and Bat ID session 8:30pm – 10:30pm

Experts will help to identify bird calls and bats flying above Abbey Way and Southmere during a walking tour. No experience needed.

Contact msfn@peabody.org.uk to let us know you are attending or for further information.

Thamesmead Travelling Cinema – Steven Spielberg's ET

30 July, 8:30pm

Birchmere Park, SE28 8GB

£1.50 (includes Popcorn), all proceeds go to a local foodbank; Kids under 10 are free

Grab your friends and family, a picnic blanket and some snacks and head on down to Birchmere Park and enjoy an open air movie night.

Find out more and book tickets via www.thamesmeadtravellingcinema.com

JULY



Dad's event with Parent Power Education

30 July, 2pm – 4pm

Moorings Sociable Club, SE28 8BG

Parent Power Ed will be holding a fathers-only event celebrating and supporting African and Caribbean dads, promoting effective fatherhood. There will be conversation and learning. Refreshments will be available.

For more information and to book a place at contact bianca@parentpower-ed.co.uk



The Hundred Club with TACO!

Sat 30 July, 10 – 3, Cygnet Square

Sat 6th Aug, 10 – 3, Cygnet Square

Sat 13 Aug, 10 – 3, Cygnet Square

Wed 24 Aug, 10 – 1, Lesnes Abbey Lodge

Thurs 25 Aug, 10 – 3, Cygnet Square

A free, experimental creative space for children aged 6-12, their siblings, parents and carers. Join us as we play and make art while discussing social justice issues.

To RSVP, sign up to our mailing list for future sessions, or for more info email nb@taco.org.uk or visit www.taco.org.uk/hundred-club-returns

The Hundred Club is produced by TACO! and facilitated by artist Ruth Beale.



Boh Boh Finds Home – Little Bean Theatre at Moorings Sociable Club

31 July, 11am and 2pm

Moorings Sociable Club, SE28 8BG

Cost: Free

Our alien friend Boh Boh got lost in space, can we help him find his way home? What and who will we meet on this journey?

This special outdoor version of Boh Boh Finds Home is an interactive adventure that allows families to travel through the galaxy together, stopping at different planets to help our friend Boh Boh the alien find home. We sing and dance through space, engage in various sensory elements, learn basic Chinese characters with Cantonese and most of all have fun! Suitable for children aged 3-8 years old and their grownups.

This event is produced by Tramshed as part of their Greenwich Family Arts Festival.

Little Bean Theatre is the first and only English-Cantonese bilingual family theatre company in the UK.

The company was set up by a group of London-based HongKonger artists and educators in 2018 in recognition of Cantonese as the most spoken Chinese language in households in the UK, and ESEA artists being underrepresented in the arts, particularly for those making works for children and families.

Tickets available at www.littlebeantheatre Moorings Sociable Club.eventbrite.co.uk. For more information visit www.tramshed.org



Gallions Park Picnic - Just Us Dance Theatre & Greenwich Family Arts Festival

31 July, 3 – 8pm

Gallions Park, SE28 0HJ

Cost: TBC

Come along to Gallions Park for a fun family day out! Grab your picnic blanket and a scotch egg or two and enjoy an afternoon of performance from Tramshed and Greenwich Dance.

Tramshed present The Rascally Diner as part of their Greenwich Family Arts Festival – a show that gently explores food provenance, sustainability and healthy eating in a silly, song-filled and riotous performance for humans aged 5+.

Greenwich Dance present professional dance company Just Us Dance Theatre who will perform Born to Protest, a hip hop dance experience by choreographer Joseph Toonga. The seven strong company perform en masse to a heart-thumping soundtrack of hip hop beats and voice over.

Produced by Greenwich Dance and Artstrust Productions and Tramshed. Supported by Royal Greenwich Festivals and Peabody

AUGUST



The Kitchen Social Events at Rainbow Café

Throughout August 10:30am – 1pm

Waterways Children's Centre and Discovery Children's Centre

Tacol is delighted to be working with Greenwich Leisure Limited East Children Services to deliver these fun, free events for families and their children up to age 11 years old.

Each event will start with a family-focused physical activity to get you hungry. The café will open from 11.30am with food advice and tips, followed by a free, nutritious lunch!

Monday 1, 8 & 15 August, 10.30am – 1pm

Waterways Children's Centre, SE28 8EZ

Thursday 4, 11, 18 & 25 August, 10.30am – 1pm

Discovery Children's Centre, SE28 0JN

For further details and to book please contact 020 8311 5491 and waterways@gll.org



Parent Power Ed Thrive Transition Summer School

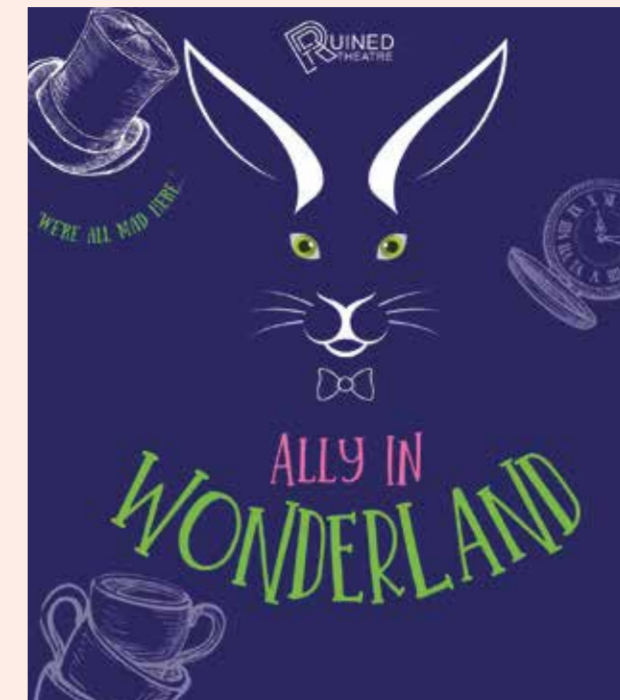
Daily from 1 - 8 August, 10am-1pm

Moorings Sociable Club, SE28 8BG

Parent Power Ed will be running a two-week summer school to support children who are transitioning from Year 6 to secondary school.

The summer school is about building children's confidence and skills to help them feel ready for secondary school. Sessions will include topics such as friendships, digital safety and managing emotions. There will be lots of interaction, fun and games.

For further details and to book contact bianca@parentpower-ed.co.uk



Ally in Wonderland

4-14 August, various times available.

The Ruined Theatre at Lesnes Abbey, DA17 5DH

Cost: £6-12.50. Local discounts available.

The Ruined Theatre team, behind the 2021 successes Our Teacher's a Troll and WITCHES, now bring you the story of Ally in Wonderland – a new adaptation of the much-loved English classic.

Visit the 800-year-old Lesnes Abbey Ruins and be transported with Ally through Wonderland.

Whilst trying to avoid starting secondary school after the summer holidays Ally falls down a rabbit hole and finds herself in the strange and fantastical world of Wonderland. Ally meets some of Wonderland's most infamous characters such as The Mad Hatter, The Queen of Hearts and the White Rabbit!

Whilst visiting Lesnes Abbey why not make a day of it and explore the other hidden gems the site has to offer such as, fossil hunting in the fossil bed, the adventure park and the beautiful ancient woodlands.

To book visit www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ally-in-wonderland-at-lesnes-abbey-ruins-tickets-313351752527 or contact info@theruinedtheatre.com



Thamesmead Travelling Cinema – Jim Henson's Labyrinth

13 August, 8:30pm

Birchmere Park, SE28 8GB

£1.50 (includes Popcorn), all proceeds go to a local foodbank; Kids under 10 are free

Grab your friends and family, a picnic blanket and some snacks and head on down to Birchmere Park and enjoy an open air movie night.

Find out more and book tickets via www.thamesmeadtravellingcinema.com



Moorings Residents Community Group Summer Community Family Fun Day

13 August, 12pm – 3pm

Hawsmoor Youth Hub, SE28 8AS

Cost: FREE

Free Lunch, Arts and Crafts activities, Bouncy Castles, Massage for parents, Sports activities + more!

For information, please contact mooringsresidentgroup17@outlook.com or 07711493272

Funded by Peabody and Supported by Young Greenwich

Parent Power Ed, Cultural Exchange

19 August, 4pm – 6pm

The Nest, Cygnet Square SE2 9FA

Parent Power Education will be holding a Cultural Exchange event, inviting all communities to bring and share their food and stories that represent their culture and heritage. Sponsored by The Royal Borough of Greenwich, this activity is for all family members including children.

To book a place contact
bianca@parentpower-ed.co.uk



Thamesmead Festival + Hot air balloon flight

20 August, 12pm – 7pm

Southmere Park, SE2 9XA

Cost: Free

Three stages filled with talent; arts and crafts; community stalls; a dog show and so much more. Thamesmead Festival aims to entertain people of all ages.

Keep an eye out on thamesmeadnow.org.uk for the full programme and line-up. We will also be flying the hot air balloon that day (weather dependant) – don't miss it!



Access Sport Inclusive Sport Sessions

15 - 25 August 10am – 2pm

Waterways Children's Centre, SE28 8EZ

Free pan-disability sports sessions for deaf, disabled and neurodivergent children aged 6-16 years and their families (siblings welcome). Inclusive sessions in dance, yoga, and multi sports tailored to participants needs in a fun and encouraging environment.

Wednesday 03 August, 10 – 11am
Yoga for ages 6-16 years old.

Thursday 04 August, 10 – 11am
Multi Sports for ages 6-16 years old.

Wednesday 10 August, 10 – 11am
Yoga for ages 6-16 years old.

Thursday 11 August, 10 – 11am
Multi Sports for ages 6-16 years old.

Monday 15 August, 3 – 4pm
Dance for ages 6 - 11 years old.

Monday 22 August, 3 – 4pm
Dance for ages 6-11 years old.

Further booking details coming soon.
For more information contact
disability.inclusion@accesssport.co.uk
020 7993 9883



Greenwich+Dockland's International Festival (GDIF), The Sky is filled with Thunder

27 & 28 August, 7:30pm

The Moorings, SE28 8BH

Cost: Free

Experienced in a playground in Thamesmead at dusk, this extraordinary theatre and audio installation about home, migration, family histories, hope, anger, fear and joy is a must-see #GDIF2022 headliner.

For more information and final timings please visit
www.festival.org/gdif-2022



Greenwich+Dockland's International Festival (GDIF), Follow Me

28 & 29 August, 3pm

Moorings Sociable Club, SE28 8BG

Cost: Free

Awe-inspiring parkour, playful circus and acrobatics transform Thamesmead into a stage, the architecture into a backdrop and you into a lead player.

For more information and final timings please visit www.festival.org/gdif-2022

SEPTEMBER



Peabody Hot Topics: Get a Job in Social Housing

20 September, 11am – 12.30pm

In-person event, location to be confirmed nearer the time)

Free event, open to anyone interested in getting a job in social housing. There will be live jobs and interviews on the day!



To find out more and register, please scan the QR code

20 THINGS TO DO IN THAMESMEAD IN THE SUMMER

Summer is a very special time of the year in Thamesmead, with the town's green spaces, lakes and canals to explore in all their glory.

The Making Space for Nature team has put together this list of 20 things that will get you up close to all the great things nature has to offer in your neighbourhood. You may even discover a few places you've never seen before!

- 1 Use sticks and leaves to make your own natural self portrait
- 2 A bee landing on a flower
- 3 A bird flying above in the sky
- 4 A squirrel climbing in the trees
- 5 Make a picnic and go and eat somewhere with a beautiful view
- 6 Find a quiet spot and listen to the birds calling for each other, can you see a nest?
- 7 Pile up some sticks, leaves and stones in a shady spot to create your own mini bug hotel
- 8 Spot two butterflies flapping their wings and flying together
- 9 Make a map of your local park and use it to organise your own treasure hunt
- 10 Go on a walk and collect three small things that will remind you of your journey
- 11 Visit one of the public community gardens in Thamesmead – guess what vegetables are growing
- 12 Flowers growing
- 13 Trees swaying in the breeze
- 14 Birds landing on a lake or canal
- 15 Children playing in a park
- 16 Visit a place in Thamesmead that you have never been to before
- 17 Find a leaf that is the same size as your hand
- 18 Feed the ducks a healthy snack. They like eating bird seed, peas or chopped lettuce!
- 19 Draw or paint a picture of your favourite place in Thamesmead
- 20 Take a walk on a rainy day, look for puddles and animals hiding in woods so they don't get wet!



TAG! YOU'RE IT!

Street Tag is an app-based family-friendly game that turns your local area into a virtual playground.

You then earn rewards for physical activity. It's a great way to stay active and explore local parks and green spaces. Everyone can get involved through their school or the community!

Schools will be able to compete against other schools in the borough, while residents in smaller



FIELDS OF EVERYWHEN

Over the last two years artists Neil Musson and Jono Retallick have worked closely with the local community, collecting stories about the people and places of Thamesmead.

These stories have been transformed into 225 embroideries, textile collages and illustrations, and digitally enlarged onto hot air balloon fabric. They will now form a 'floating gallery' celebrating Thamesmead's rich history, its diverse community, and its creative talent.

The balloon will be taking to the skies in Southmere Park, Birchmere Park, Crossways and Gallions Reach Park over the summer.



As the flights are weather dependent, stay bang up to date by regularly checking the balloon's progress on www.g-foew.art and on Instagram @fieldsofeverywhen

groups of six or fewer will be able to compete against each other on a Community Leaderboard.

Points are earned by scanning virtual tags around the borough, converting your number of steps into Street Tag points. Top teams will win fantastic prizes for themselves or their school.

Find out more at www.livewellgreenwich.org.uk/livingwell/street-tag/

WE'RE MAKING SPACE FOR NATURE



The Making Space for Nature programme was set up three years ago by Peabody, together with Groundwork London and the Mayor of London, as part of the CLEVER Cities initiative, to work in partnership with the local Thamesmead community.

It aims to introduce new ways for the people of Thamesmead to use and enjoy our many beautiful green spaces and help the town's wildlife to thrive and develop.

Since its creation the programme has been doing just that through a whole host of projects. You may have seen some of the group's work without even realising.

From having a resident gardener to help people make the most of their own green spaces, to planting Thamesmead's Tiny Forest, the Making Space for Nature team is always looking for new ways to make a difference.

Recently, the team has partnered with the North West Kent Countryside Partnership to host a series of free 'Wildlife & Welly Walks' for three Thamesmead schools. This sees classes of

children getting out and about to learn about local wildlife. They also work together to improve the green spaces in the area so other pupils can really enjoy their walk to school.

There's also the Making Space for Nature Community Fund that gives successful applicants between £200 to £2,000 to make their own nature-based projects come to life.

Jack Gower (pictured above), Peabody's Landscape Activation Manager, who oversees Making Space for Nature for Peabody said: "Thamesmead is such a unique place when it comes to green places and wildlife.

"The whole point of this programme is to work with the local community to create projects that really mean something to them; projects that will have a big impact on people's lives and the place they call home.

"It's the many local volunteers who are so passionate about Thamesmead who ensure Making Space for Nature is such a success. We're very thankful to them for choosing to spend time working with us."

There are a number of ways you can get involved in Making Space for Nature including joining the Nature Forum, which meets every month to discuss new ideas. You can also volunteer at the drop-in gardening sessions or take part in the biodiversity action volunteer programme.

If you're a local school or community group why not explore the Tump 53 Nature Reserve Education Programme? This includes open days and seasonal events covering activities such as mini beast hunting, pond dipping and orienteering.



To find out more about all these programmes and sign up for our monthly e-newsletter go to the 'In Your Community' section of www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk You can also give us your feedback, share ideas and ask questions by emailing msfn@peabody.org.uk

GREEN DREAMS ARE MADE BY THIS



The Making Space for Nature (MSFN) Community Fund was established to develop new ideas that help make Thamesmead greener.

It awards grants from £200 up to £2,000 to individuals and organisations to deliver nature-based projects that benefit local residents. The Fund is a key component of the MSFN programme which was set up by Peabody, together with Groundwork London and the Mayor of London, as part of the CLEVER Cities initiative. Here are two programmes that have recently benefitted from the Fund.

Natural Gardening Workshops
Miyuki Kashara has created and hosted 'An Introduction to Natural Gardening and Soil Ecology', a series of outdoor practical workshops for local people.

Miyuki developed her workshops after suffering an allergic reaction to something she'd eaten. To find out why this had happened she focused on the relationship between soil and food, concluding "healthy soil provides healthy food."

Last year, Miyuki successfully applied to the MSFN Community Fund so that she could share her knowledge with others.

This has enabled Miyuki to educate, entertain and inspire Thamesmead residents on a really important topic. She said of the Fund: "If you think your project will benefit the local community, just try it!"

Edible Garden Project

The Atrium Community Centre is a place for residents to come together in South Thamesmead. It hosts a variety of workshops and fitness classes. At the heart of it is a garden for the whole community to enjoy.

The team there wanted to engage the community in planting and to partner with other individuals and organisations who have benefitted from MSFN grants. Their plan was to create an Edible Garden to provide locally grown produce, such as tomatoes and radishes, to support Ozge Aden (who was awarded an MSFN grant last year) with her healthy eating and seed growing workshops.

Local resident Kim Teasdale met with Groundwork London – part of the Making

Space for Nature team – to discuss plans for the centre, and how a grant from the MSFN Community Fund could help transform the space.

Kim successfully applied for a grant and is now running the Atrium and Edible Garden project along with other local members of the Thamesmead Community Benefit Society (TCBS).

They've been busy installing composting bins and a light sculpture (made by local artist, Nathalie Coste), tidying up the Edible Garden and have now added a polytunnel to boost their growing options all year round.

The team isn't showing signs of slowing down. Kim says, "We want more sculptures and more planters made from pallets." And they have plans for more things for the community to look forward to, including mural festivals.

The MSFN Community Fund is now closed for this year but it's never too early to start thinking about your idea for 2023. Find out more at the 'In Your Community' section of www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk



SUMMER FOOD AND FUN

Earlier this year Peabody worked with local organisations, including Smiley Ark and the Jesse's Place Foundation, to support a host of holiday food and fun activities.

Funded by the Department for Education, these programmes help children and families access free physical activities, and healthy meals, while promoting play and social interaction during the school holidays.

Children from Thamesmead got the opportunity to take part in multi-sport sessions with Cray Wanderers at the Moorings Sociable Club. This was one of our first sessions at the club and children told us they thought the space was 'cool and colourful!'

At Peabody, we're committed to supporting families and children experiencing food poverty and helping them through the current cost of living crisis.



If your child is eligible for free school meals and you'd like to find out more about this summer's holiday programmes, please contact Lilian Dettmer, Children and Families Project Officer, at Uduak.Jesuthasan@peabody.org.uk



More than 50 young people recently took part in a ten-week boxing programme with Parent Power and Power Mobile Gym.

Peabody commissioned both organisations to put on the free combined activity for young people at Hawksmoor youth hub after they had expressed an interest in taking part.

The boxing sessions were led by coach Shan and coach Riley who is a Peabody resident.

Young people were taught boxing and fitness and the sessions helped to improve confidence and self-esteem.

One 15-year-old participant said: "These boxing sessions have allowed me to make friends with people who I would have never thought of." Another

youngster, 13, added: "The sessions have been a really cool experience, and I feel as though not only have I learnt a lot about life skills but also learnt a lot about myself!"

As well as the boxing activity, Parent Power worked alongside Power Mobile Gym to provide a space to promote positive mental health and well-being. Young people could pop in and take part in various activities such as creative therapy, talking and reflection.

"It was really good to talk about my emotions, it helped me to walk away from situations. I understand my mental health and why it is important to have better relationships with myself and others. I was glad to be with my friends and to be able to talk in the group when I am feeling stressed," said one of the teenagers.



Peabody will be creating more opportunities for young people at the Moorings Sociable Club during the summer. If you're interested in finding out more, contact nadia.kassab@peabody.org.uk

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING TEAM HERE TO HELP

We know this is a tough time and if you need it, we can help. Our Employment and Training team help Peabody residents find work. We work closely with a range of employers and local partners to access a range of job vacancies. Our support includes:



Please contact us by emailing employment.training@peabody.org.uk

LOOKING FOR A JOB?

Sign up to our fortnightly jobs bulletin for new jobs straight to your inbox. If you spot something you want to apply for, one of our expert employment case workers can provide one-to-one support to help you apply.

Sign up here: www.peabody.org.uk/newsletter

VOLUNTEER HERE!

Get involved and support your local community! Peabody offers a wide range of volunteering opportunities in Thamesmead.

You could become involved in a project bringing together youngsters with older people, lend a hand at an event, or help residents find the services they need.

If you're interested in giving back to your local community, learning new skills and meeting people then contact ThamesmeadCommunityTeam@peabody.org.uk to find out more about volunteering with us.

FORUMS

South London Business Forum – Second Monday of Every Month: online (4pm - 5pm) / in-person once a quarter (4pm - 6pm)

The Peabody organised forum gathers business owners, local council representatives and entrepreneurs to provide opportunities, information, advice and networking.

Email businessready@peabody.org.uk for more information.

Thamesmead Culture Forum – First Wednesday of Every Month

Forum for all those interested in Culture in and around Thamesmead.

Email lisa.drew@peabody.org.uk to join or be added to the culture forum mailing list

Thamesmead Nature Forum - Last Thursday of every month, 5.30pm

Forum for anyone passionate about nature and the green and blue spaces in Thamesmead

Email msfn@peabody.org.uk for details about future sessions





Bexley See Change Programme

Solace's See Change is a new service in the London borough of Bexley that works with men concerned about their behaviour towards their female partner.

solace in Bexley solacewomensaid.org

Active Families FREE Family Fun Sports and Games

Come and join in with our free family fun sports and games sessions.

- All sessions run from 19 April to 31 August
- Suitable for all members of the family over the age of five
- Parent/guardian required to join in
- No experience needed and all equipment is provided
- Please bring a drink and wear comfortable clothing and footwear
- Just turn up, join in, have fun, be active!

Opportunity to win sports equipment and other prizes

For more information please email greenwich.getactive@royalgreenwich.gov.uk or visit Greenwich Get Active at greenwichgetactive.com

Join the GGA Street Tag leaderboard competition to win prizes



WAVE **STREET TAG** **Greenwich Get Active** **ROYAL borough of GREENWICH**

Parenting Across Cultures

Celebrating African and Caribbean families in Greenwich

FREE Thamesmead Library on Wednesdays 4pm to 5pm And Woolwich Library on Thursdays 6pm to 7pm

Join us for workshops, discussions, food and performances

Themes include:

- culture and parenting
- parenting in multi-racial families
- children and young people
- food, family and community

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Join us on this learning journey where we will share stories, discuss culture, heritage and identities within the African and Caribbean communities of our borough. Let's celebrate together in recognition that diversity creates a richer, stronger and healthier society.

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM: @PARENTINGACROSSCULTURESUK
SIGN UP TO ATTEND OUR EVENTS: PARENTING@PARENTPOWER-ED.CO.UK

Parent Power the game changers WWW.PARENTPOWER-ED.CO.UK **ROYAL borough of GREENWICH**

Worried about rising fuel and energy bills?

Save money with our new **Energy Advice Service**

We've partnered with **AgilityEco** to deliver a new service for Peabody residents.

Save money on your energy bills like Angela from Bexley did

Sign up today and start saving!

Online at www.peabody.org.uk/free-home-energy-advice

Or use your smartphone's camera to scan this code:  Or call our Customer Hub on **0300 123 3456**.

Peabody

Free childcare courses available

Join one of our courses to get your childcare career started. Most of them are free and run online so all you'll need is a laptop or computer to join.



Online courses	In-person courses
Level 1 Childcare	Developing a diverse child and adolescent workforce
Level 2 Support Teaching and Level 2 Diploma in Early Years	Babysitting course
Level 3 Childminding	Level 3 Award in Education and Training
Level 2 Food safety course	Level 3 Support Teaching and Learning in Schools
Level 2 Intra-Familial child sex abuse workshop	Level 3 SENCO Training (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator)
Level 2 Safeguarding Children	Intro to play therapy training
Childcare and English as a second language: importance of play	Level 3 Paediatric First Aid
	Childcare Apprenticeships

How to enrol
Please contact us if you're interested in any course.
www.peabody.org.uk/childcare-courses
childcareteam@peabody.org.uk

Peabody

MORE2ME

Do you know any female residents who can benefit from Peabody's new personal development course?

The course can help with, but is not exclusive to those who have issues with...

- Confidence and/or self esteem
- Feeling low, flat, depressed or anxious
- Feelings of not coping with life
- Domestic abuse / bullying
- Being withdrawn and /or isolated
- Relationships that appear unhealthy
- Getting back into life, work & community
- Negative thoughts / mindset

The group will be run in a safe and confidential space with no judgement.

To nominate a resident please contact Lilian.Dettmer@peabody.org.uk or the course provider below.

Course provider: Lucy House: info@more2me.co.uk
www.more2me.co.uk 07845 202 292

Parenting Across Cultures presents...

The Embrace Space

Celebrating positive racial identity with drama & music!

1st June, 27th July, 17th August
National Maritime Museum
Greenwich SE10 9NF

Our Workshops


An exciting opportunity for our young people within the African and Caribbean community to:

- Celebrate their individuality
- Explore their strengths
- Tell their stories through creative expression.

For more info & tickets: parenting@parentpower-ed.co.uk
[parentingacrossculturesuk](https://www.instagram.com/parentingacrossculturesuk)

Parent Power Parents, the game changers **ROYAL borough of GREENWICH**

Friendship Learning Training



FLARE

Together we can make a difference

DO YOU HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR A CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON? FEELING UNSURE HOW TO REACH HELP IN SUPPORTING THEM?

Find out how we can offer a listening ear, practical advice and signposting to local services that can help you help your family.

To find out more email us: flare@bexleymoorings.co.uk or 020 8304 9609

- @ThamesmeadLDN
- @ThamesmeadLDN
- @ThamesmeadNow
- ThamesmeadLDN

GET IN TOUCH

If you want to tell us what you think about 'Talk of Thamesmead', sign up for the monthly digital newsletter or get more involved in the work we're doing then please drop us a line at thamesmeadnow@peabody.org.uk

NEXT STEPS FOR SOUTH THAMESMEAD

Peabody is finalising a planning application for a new development alongside Southmere Lake.

The development, on the former Binsey Walk site, will feature 329 new homes. Some 42% will be affordable housing (a mix of social rent, London Affordable Rent and shared ownership), ranging from one-bedroom apartments to larger family homes. Many will have views over Southmere Lake.

Peabody recently held public consultation events online and at The Nest in Southmere. These were an opportunity for local people to learn more about the project, meet the design

team, and tell Peabody more about what they would like to see on the lakefront location.

You can keep up to date on how things are progressing by visiting www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk and searching for South Thamesmead Phase 2.



If you have any questions, please email the team at ThamesmeadNow@peabody.org.uk or call Sarah-Jane Day on 0203 828 3671.





West Thamesmead Community Drop-In

Creating Connecting Caring

**BROADWATER VILLAGE HALL
GOOSANDER WAY, LONDON SE28 0ER
1ST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH
10:00-12:00**

CHECK WWW.WESTTHAMESMEAD.ORG.UK FOR FUTURE DATES

**A MEETING PLACE OPEN TO EVERYONE
DROP IN FOR FREE TEA, COFFEE, SQUASH, AND A LISTENING EAR
SIGNPOSTING TO LOCAL SUPPORT FOR THOSE IN NEED**

CREATING A COMMUNITY SPACE
CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY
CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY



A PARTNERSHIP PROJECT WITH:



WTCA
WTCC
PEABODY



WEST THAMESMEAD
COMMUNITY CHURCH



Peabody



WEST THAMESMEAD
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

THAMESMEAD CYCLE HUB



Thamesmead Bike Club

Suitable for beginners, improvers of anyone who wants to practice cycling

Every Saturday
10:00am-12:00pm
Over 16 only
Bike and helmets provided

Family Cycle Club

Suitable for beginner cyclists, starting 11 June

Every Saturday
12:00pm-13:30pm
Suitable for 5yrs+
Bike and helmets provided



Scan here to book
For more information email roadsafetyeducation@bexley.gov.uk



