



Talk of Thamesmead

The publication for Thamesmead residents

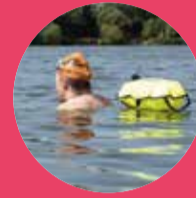
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Autumn
2022



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Hello Thamesmead



John Lewis,
Executive Director,
Thamesmead,
Peabody.

Well, as Autumn comes in, the warm summer months we enjoyed are starting to become something of a distant memory.

And while the sunny summer months may have been great for getting out and about in Thamesmead, the lack of rain meant our fantastic green spaces turned more a shade of light brown.

So it's a big thank you to our Environmental Services team who kept our parks, lakes and waterways in great shape despite having to battle drought conditions.

The sun certainly shone on this summer's Thamesmead Festival with thousands of you coming out to enjoy such a great variety of attractions: craft stalls; food trucks; the Fields of Everywhen hot air balloon; brilliant local musical acts, and not forgetting my personal highlight, the dog show.

It was wonderful to see our community coming together to celebrate the very best of Thamesmead. If you weren't able to make it, you can see a little of what you missed on pages 4 and 5.

In this edition you'll find how plans to bring the DLR to the centre are progressing (page 6), a real-life railway that already runs in the town (page 8) and how you can help to shape the future of Thamesmead (page 8).

You'll also see how you can get out and about and enjoy the town's parks and plans for new accessible paths (pages 12 and 13) as well as essential advice on how to stay warm at home this winter (page 14).

As always, we want Talk of Thamesmead to be about what's important to you. If there's something happening locally you think everyone should know about then please get in touch at thamesmeadnow@peabody.org.uk so we can help spread the word.

We look forward to hearing from you.

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 thamesmeadnow@peabody.org.uk use the contact form on www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk or ring us on 020 3828 3671.

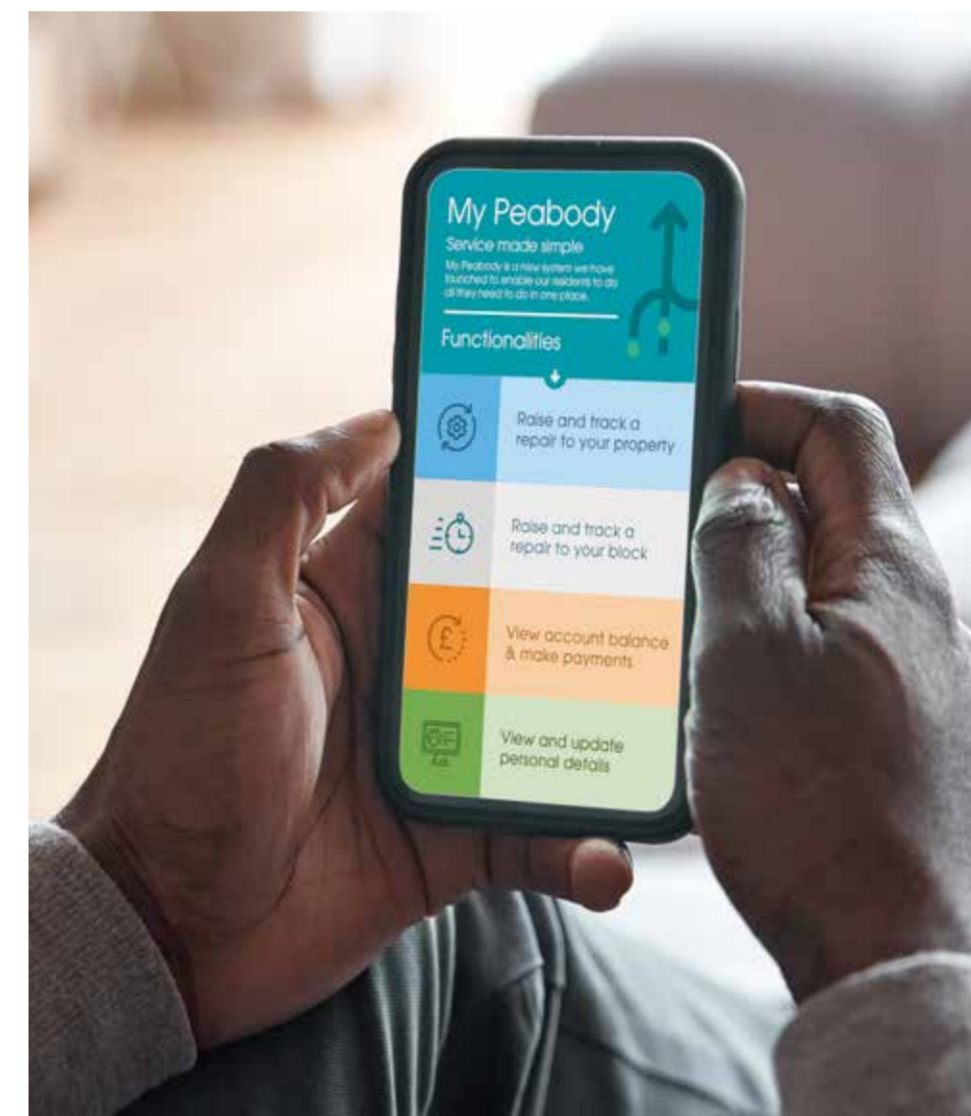
If you'd rather speak to someone in person

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.

Introducing My Peabody



Service made simple - The brand-new way for you to easily access our services online.

My Peabody is the easy way to access our services online. Sign up to manage your statements, make payments, raise repairs and update your details, all at a time that suits you.

Plus, sign up today to be in with a chance of winning a £25 Love2shop voucher!

We'll continue to develop and add new features to My Peabody based on your feedback, so look out for more information from us soon.



To find out more, visit www.peabody.org.uk/my-peabody or scan or this QR code



More homes for South Thamesmead

Another important step has been taken to bring even more affordable homes to South Thamesmead.

The London Borough of Bexley's planning committee recently agreed to Peabody's initial plans for up to 1,950 new homes, of which at least 35% will be affordable, on the site of the old Lesnes estate, close to the new Abbey Wood Elizabeth Line station.

The proposals, which represent phases three to seven of Peabody's wider masterplan for South Thamesmead, also include new commercial areas and enhancements to the public open space.

Phase one includes 534 new homes close to Southmere Lake (55% of which will be affordable homes). It also includes the new Cygnet Square, the Nest library and community building, along with space for shops, services and places to eat and drink. This phase is due to complete by the end of this year.

Phase two will bring a further 329 new homes (42% will be affordable homes) to the area. Peabody submitted a detailed planning application for this phase to Bexley Council earlier in 2022, with a view to starting the project in 2023, subject to planning approval.

Matthew Foulis, Project Director Thamesmead for Peabody, said: "Bexley Council's decision takes us yet another step closer to improving the quality of life for residents in South Thamesmead.

"As well as benefiting from new, high quality, energy-efficient homes close to the Elizabeth Line, residents can also look forward to new facilities and more attractive, welcoming and accessible open spaces on their doorstep."

Cllr Teresa O'Neill OBE, Leader of the London Borough of Bexley, added: "The area has received a real boost with the start of services on the Elizabeth Line and we feel sure that the prospect of large numbers of new homes, commercial space and community facilities will be welcomed by existing and new residents."

If you'd like to find out more about Peabody's plans across Thamesmead visit www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk

Festival fun returns



People from across Thamesmead turned out in force to celebrate its vibrant creative community at the annual Thamesmead Festival – with performers ranging from international stars to local legends.

Residents and visitors flooded to Southmere Park on a sunny August day to enjoy a packed programme featuring home-grown talent, with live music, dance, performance, food and family activities.

The Park Stage was compered by charismatic host Fusion and enjoyed views of the 'Fields of EveryWhen' hot air balloon. Highlights from the stage included local street dance group Dynamix and rapper/singer Jules.

Ahead of his Park Stage set, internationally acclaimed trumpeter Byron Wallen captivated the audience at the Unplugged Stage. His set included a collection of seashells as well as conches, and using a loop pedal to create a hypnotic soundscape.

The day culminated with a fun-packed performance by Britain's Got Talent champions Twist and Pulse who got the audience cheering to their unique dance routines performed to a montaged soundtrack of RnB, pop music, TV theme tunes and mobile ringtones.

The Dog Show, a festival favourite, was hosted by the sharply-attired Bunty and Bob, who invited festival-goers to enter their canine companions of all shapes and sizes into a series of categories including 'best treat catchers' and 'dog most resembling its owner'.

Throughout the afternoon, visitors were also able to wander between the stages browsing community stalls run by local groups and charities and sample the mouth-watering menu of locally-produced global cuisine and drink.

The Festival is organised by the Festival Production Group, made up of 14 Thamesmead residents, in collaboration with live event producers Serious and Peabody's Culture Team.

If you didn't get to the Festival, make sure you pencil the date for next year's – Saturday, August 12, 2023 – into your diary now so you don't miss out.



Gonzalo Fuentes and Shalini Panchal:

GF: "We've been to the Unplugged and Park Stage and have been really enjoying all the different styles of music. I've really liked the atmosphere and we've met people from all over London."

SP: "It's great to see all this different activity being encouraged in Thamesmead. We've had some lovely food from Himalayan Tiffin and it's been a great day out. It's lovely seeing so many people out and having fun."



Ramatu Adisa-Sesay and Nageeb Sesay:

RA-S: "It's the first time we've come to the festival. I've really enjoyed everything and meeting my neighbours, it's such a good opportunity for everyone to get together."

NS: "I love the music. It's been great seeing all the people here. I've made some new friends and we'll be coming back next year for sure."



Mandy Paulson:

"I only moved to Thamesmead in November so this is my first festival and I love it! There's a great community atmosphere and it's such a good way of bringing everyone together."

"It's a fantastic location next to the beautiful lake, I didn't know quite what to expect but I've been really pleasantly surprised, it's what a festival should be."



Zen Mena:

"I've come over from Kennington after hearing about the festival from my friend. I've been to Thamesmead before so I thought I'd come over and have a look."

"The atmosphere is great, there's lots of people here and a great range of stalls and attractions. I'll definitely be coming back next year and bringing a few friends with me."

Leaders united in improving transport links



In 2019 Peabody joined with Lendlease to masterplan a new town centre for Thamesmead – the Thamesmead Waterfront.

A big part of these plans is an extension of the Docklands Light Railway which will improve transport connections to this part of Thamesmead. There's already been a noticeable difference with the Elizabeth Line opening at Abbey Wood.

In the summer, Cllr Anthony Okereke (Leader for the Royal Borough of Greenwich) and Cllr Averil Lekau (Deputy Leader of the Royal Borough of Greenwich) met with Rokhsana Fiaz (Mayor of the London Borough of Newham) Abena Oppong-Asare (MP for Erith and Thamesmead) Seb Dance (Deputy Mayor of London for Transport) and John Lewis (Peabody's Executive Director for Thamesmead) to discuss better transport links for the town. They are pictured above at Thamesmead Town Centre.

Peabody outlined its vision for Thamesmead Waterfront. Transforming the 100-hectare site with up to 15,000 new homes, 55 hectares of open space, shops, schools, leisure, and cultural facilities.

Cllr Anthony Okereke said: "The Royal Borough of Greenwich and the London Borough of Newham share many of the same objectives. I look forward to collaborating with our partners to bring forward essential transport links to an area that has so much potential to offer."

Abena Oppong-Asare, MP, added: "For too long Thamesmead has been left off the transport map. Extending the DLR to Thamesmead would unlock significant new housing on both sides of the river and would open up access to work and educational opportunities for my constituents."

Seb Dance, said: "A DLR extension from Gallions Reach in Newham to Beckton Riverside, and across the river to Thamesmead, would be transformative for the area."

Peabody's John Lewis added: "It's important all the different parties dedicated to the advancement of Thamesmead work together to get the town the transport links it deserves. By all coming together like we've done today and presenting a united front we are really increasing the chances of that happening."



Hundreds of people from across London flocked to Thamesmead this summer as part of this year's Open House Festival – a two-week celebration of the capital's housing, architecture and neighbourhoods.

The themes of the walking tours in Thamesmead were: 'Thamesmead's Lost Landscapes', 'Thamesmead Beyond Brutalism' and 'Town of Tomorrow' – all led by Peabody team members.

The Moorings Sociable Club was even listed in the prestigious Architects' Journal as one of the top 10 buildings to see as part of the entire Festival.

If you're interested in exploring Thamesmead's landscape and architecture you don't have to wait until next year's Open House Festival, there are events organised by Peabody throughout the year.



Keep an eye on the What's On section of www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk for details.



Fix my street

Peabody has launched a new online service so residents can easily report any problems on their 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.

It's 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.

Report any environmental maintenance issues at fix.thamesmeadnow.org.uk or scan here



Local Talent





Fund steam ahead

Crossness pumping station, known as “The Cathedral on the Marsh”, was originally built in 1865 to help resolve the sewage problem that existed across London in the 1800’s.

Visitors can witness the stunning monument to Victorian architecture and be amazed by the sheer magnitude of the largest rotative beam engines in the world.

On Open Days the Royal Arsenal Narrow Gauge (RANG) Railway, based at the Crossness Engines site Abbey Wood (www.crossness.org.uk), transports visitors to the historic pumping station and returns them to the main entrance at the end of their visit.

The train ride has been described as a “little gem” with many compliments from passengers and their amazement that a railway exists on their doorstep, right beside the River Thames.

Unfortunately, RANG Railway has been out of action lately and is presently running a crowd funding campaign to raise money to repair the locomotive “Bazalgette”, named after Sir Joseph Bazalgette, the engineer responsible for building the original London sewer system.

If you can spread the word about the RANG appeal on social media it would be greatly appreciated. Anyone wishing to donate can do so at www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/rangrailway



Shape your future



Since 2014, Peabody has been working with communities across Thamesmead to breathe new life into the town. The 30-year regeneration programme is all about improving and growing.

The current plan, which covers 2018 – 2023, outlines how Peabody will improve, grow and look after Thamesmead for the long-term. The plan for 2023 – 2028 is being developed.

Peabody is keen to get your feedback on how it’s doing so far and to hear your thoughts on what it should focus on in the future. By sharing your views, you can help identify the things that matter most to the Thamesmead community.

The ‘Be Part of the Plan’ booklet highlights the work going on to transform Thamesmead and gives some examples of what’s already achieved.



Scan here to read the Plan for Thamesmead online or pick up a copy from The Nest.



Scan here fill in the questionnaire

Black Culture Collective



Three winning projects have been announced by Thamesmead’s Black Culture Collective programme.

Peabody supported local residents to launch the collective in 2020, recognising the critical role Thamesmead’s black community has played in shaping the cultural, social and economic life of the town throughout its history.

As part of the programme, every year the Collective select and support community and cultural projects that reflect its aims and ambitions. This year’s chosen commissions are:

Made in Thamesmead – an animated documentary directed by Mary Martins; a documentary animator, researcher and artist filmmaker who has lived in Thamesmead since 2016.

Made in Thamesmead will combine live action footage with 2D animation to explore the history, migration and settlement of the Black African and Caribbean community in Thamesmead.

Local residents will have an opportunity to participate in the creation of the animation through a series of workshops. Once complete, the documentary will be screened nationally

in early 2023, before being stored in the Thamesmead Community Archive where it will be made available for the public to view.

Black History RE: Creative – a comprehensive programme for young people aged three to 18 which aims to educate those from all backgrounds about Black history. Created by Tatiana Oriana, Director of The R.O.M.E.L Foundation.

This series of workshops will present factual information on Black history not taught in schools, using various art forms including crafts, drama, dance, singing, music, photography, food, hair styling, creative writing and film.

LPF Kiddies Club: Access to Art – offers children aged nine to 14 the opportunity to learn about, celebrate and explore African and Caribbean arts, culture and history. Developed by Carmel Britto, Education Director at LPF Kiddies Club.

Access to Art aims to introduce children to African and Caribbean artists, art forms, histories and cultures. They’ll get to immerse themselves in a variety of learning experiences, as well as create their own art pieces, participate in performances, and go on day trips to visit exhibitions and places of interest outside of their local area.

The Black Culture Collective panel said: “We all want to see more activities created and delivered by Black people locally which is why we’re so pleased with the quality of projects we’re supporting this year. We need to leave the next generation of people of African and Caribbean heritage with a legacy of belonging in Thamesmead. These projects will help us reach that goal.”

Adriana Marques, Head of Thamesmead Cultural Strategy at Peabody, said: “This year’s Black Culture Collective commission is supporting yet another brilliant set of activities that celebrate and uplift Black culture in Thamesmead. We hope they will help to give local people a better sense of their history and provide much-needed opportunities for people to celebrate their heritage.”

The Black Culture Collective forms part of Peabody’s wider cultural programme in Thamesmead, which aims to offer people things to do and places to go all year round. It is listed in the Thamesmead Culture Guide and Directory which showcases the broad range of the creatives, activities and businesses in the area and can be found at www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk



Sarah-Jane makes your day



To many residents Sarah-Jane Day is the face of Peabody in Thamesmead. Whether it's been at Park View Hub, the Marketing Suite near Abbey Wood station or now at The Nest at Southmere Lake, if you've popped in to ask a question or catch up on what Peabody is doing – there's a good chance it will have been Sarah-Jane you'll have spoken to.

Sarah-Jane first joined Peabody in 2012 working as a Neighbourhood Manager for homes in central London before moving to her current role as Information and Engagement Manager in Thamesmead four years ago.

Sarah-Jane says: "I'd worked in Housing since I was 23 and wanted to do something different and more positive rather than staying in an enforcement role.

"It was obvious there was going to be a lot going on in Thamesmead and I thought it would be really interesting to go on that journey watching an entire town change and develop over a number of years."

In her role, Sarah-Jane works with Peabody colleagues to make sure local voices are heard. This can involve partnering with local groups, such as the Community Design Collective and Creating Pavements Team, to deliver the projects.

"Obviously any change in a community brings concerns and questions from residents, so it was important that Peabody had a plan in place and somewhere people could come and ask about what we were doing and how they can become involved.

"You can have all the information online or in leaflets that residents can take away but there's always going to be those who prefer to meet face-to-face and talk things through.

"Over the past four years the way Peabody works with the community has really developed and now projects are often done in partnership between us and local groups or individual residents."

Sarah-Jane successfully studied for a Master's degree in Contemporary History and Politics while she's been at Peabody and is now using that passion for local heritage to become a fully qualified tour guide by completing a training course run by the Open City scheme.

"It's impossible to work in Thamesmead without becoming fascinated with the town's history and architecture and I wanted to learn how I could share that interest with other people.

"The course has taught me how to create a tour, conduct risk assessments, everything you need to know to carry out successful tours.

"This summer, I ran a tour in Thamesmead called "Beyond Brutalism" as part of this year's Open City programme. I was a bit nervous at first but more than 30 people turned up and I really enjoyed it and I think they did too.

"It was such a treat to show places like Abbey Wood, the Moorings Sociable Club, the original 1960s buildings and Thamesmead's great green and blue spaces with people who hadn't been here before."

But it's not just spreading the word of Thamesmead to visitors that excites Sarah-Jane about her role at Peabody, it's her day-to-day interaction with residents and hearing what they think that gets her out of bed in the morning.

"Feedback from residents is so important, the conversations I have had with local people over the years is always passed on and has a real influence on the future plans for the town," Sarah-Jane says.



If you'd like to know more about what Peabody is doing in Thamesmead, get involved in projects or have ideas about how we might connect better with local people you can contact Sarah-Jane at thamesmeadnow@peabody.org.uk



Getting out and about is great for our health and wellbeing, which is why Peabody wants to encourage as many people as possible to walk, wheel and cycle around Thamesmead.

The ten local residents were appointed in September last year to be part of the new Community Working Group and will continue to work with Sustrans and Peabody until January 2023 to develop a design for a safe, attractive and wildlife-friendly pathway.

The team, which is made up of ten local residents, Peabody and Sustrans (a walking, wheeling and cycling charity) is looking to create a new route from Southmere

Lake to the River Thames – through the old Thamesview Golf Centre.

It's less than a mile to get from one place to the other, but the current routes are not always clearly marked or easy to use – particularly if you have a wheelchair, mobility scooter or a buggy.

As part of the 'Pathways to the Thames' project, the team spoke to local residents over the summer to learn more about who travels through and visits the former golf course, including what people love about it and want to keep.

The team also explored why some people don't go there and what would make it a place where more residents want to spend time in and walk through.

The 'Pathways to the Thames' project is being funded by Peabody and the Greater London Authority (GLA).

Nature



For more information, please keep an eye on www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk or scan the QR code





Come to Tump 53

There's been more than 10,000 visitors to the Tump 53 Nature Reserve since Peabody reopened the nature reserve in 2019.

Visitors can take part in sessions about woodland habitat, pond dipping, shelter building, fire lighting and team building-activities which help young people to connect and learn about nature.

These activities give young people an opportunity to practice important life skills like communication, leadership, risk taking and promote self-worth and increasing self-esteem.

Schools can book by emailing tump53@peabody.org.uk or calling 07766 813146. Outside of the education programme for schools, the site is open Tuesday mornings from 10:00am to 12:00pm during school holidays (excluding the Christmas break).

Rare bee spotted



Photo: R.earwaker

One of the rarest and most threatened bees in the UK was sighted in Thamesmead this summer.

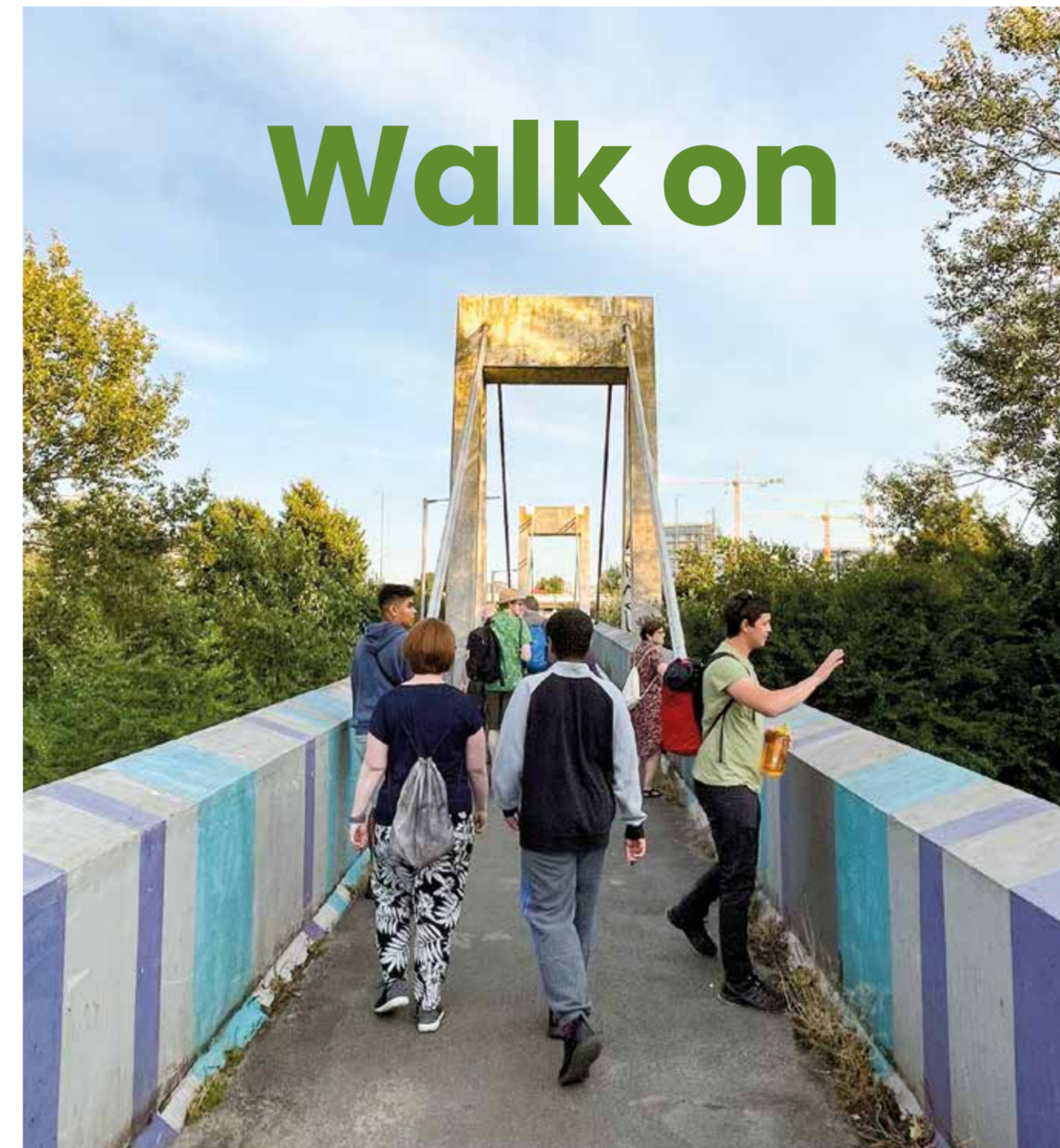
The Shrilc carder bee, usually only found in a handful of places in Southern England and South Wales, was seen in Southmere Park by CLEVER Cities consultants RSK Wilding, while delivering Pollinator Workshops as part of the Making Space for Nature summer programme.

RSK Wilding included the sighting in their biodiversity report for the project and Peabody's Landscape Activation Manager, Jack Gower, informed the Bumblebee Conservation Trust.

Bex Cartwright, Senior Conservation Officer at the Bumblebee Conservation Trust, said: "This is really brilliant news. The habitat creation and management is working and Shrilc carder bees are responding. I'm delighted for everyone working on this biodiversity enhancement project and for the bee."

If you spot the bee, which has distinctive pale grey-yellow colouring, a black band of hair between the wings and a reddish-orange tail, then contact Making Space for Nature at msfn@peabody.org.uk

You can find out more about the Shrilc Carder Bee by visiting www.bumblebeeconservation.org



Every week Greenwich Get Walking leads lots of free walks around the Borough.

These wellbeing walks are for everyone. They are a great way to make new friends or to begin (or maintain) your fitness. There's a huge variety of free walks for all abilities, visiting a range of spots and all led by friendly volunteers.

Locally, the Bostall Woods Walk lasts for 90 minutes through the woodland and heath. It's a great adventure that explores Thamesmead's green spaces.

Annemarie has been a walk leader for many years: "Because we've done this walk for several years now, we've seen friendships grow. It's a wonderful thing. When you actually look back on it, we have helped so many people. People talk with others, and I think that's how the walking groups have helped them."

Annemarie and her husband David lead the walk on Bostall Heath from 10.00am – 11:30am on Friday mornings. The route explores sections of Bostall Woods, Lesnes Abbey and the surrounding green spaces, a beautiful area. Meet at the cricket nets, corner of Bostall Hill and Longleigh Lane, SE2 0RB. Make sure to wear appropriate footwear for woodland walking and muddy terrain.

Check out the full list of Greenwich Get Walking routes at www.charltonafc.com/cact, www.greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk or www.ramblers.org.uk



For more information, please email robin.sneddon@cact.org.uk, or call the Live Well Greenwich Line on 0800 470 4831.



Making a splash

More than 200 people took part in two outdoor swimming days held at Birchmere Lake, following suggestions from residents.

Peabody partnered with experts PTP Coaching Ltd, who supervised the swimming, with local organisations and groups asking swimmers and park users how they felt about the activity and what else they'd like to see locally.

118 people responded and the Making Space for Nature team is now analysing the overwhelmingly positive and encouraging feedback with a view to making outdoor swimming a regular activity in Thamesmead next year.

There is still an opportunity to get in touch to express interest and share ideas by emailing msfn@peabody.org.uk

Special thanks go to the local groups who helped with the survey: Cllr Averil Lekau; Royal Life Saving Society Kent Branch; Birchmere Changing Room working group; Thamesmead Biodiversity Action Volunteers and event manager, Events Meets World.

Volunteer for nature

Even though Autumn is here there's still lots to be done in Thamesmead's many green spaces.

Over the next few weeks, the Making Space for Nature team and volunteers will be focusing on the orchard in Crossway Park and introducing a productive willow crop. Once established local groups will be able to harvest the willow to make things with.

Volunteers are very welcome to get involved and work with Lesnes Abbey Friends. Join the Making Space for Nature mailing list or contact msfn@peabody.org.uk to find out more.

Making Space for Nature is also continuing to support community gardening in Thamesmead. Contact us if you want to find out where your local gardening site is and we can introduce you to the gardeners there.

We are particularly interested in speaking to people that want to garden regularly in South Thamesmead and the Moorings. The Peabody Development Team is also offering a range of volunteering opportunities in Thamesmead, such as Mason Mile Ambassadors, Digital Champions, Food Club Volunteers, and Positive Steps Volunteers.

For more information on the roles and how to get involved please contact ThamesmeadCommunityTeam@peabody.org.uk

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

The Culture Forum is now running every two months, with the next one on 2 November.

The forum is 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

The forum is for anyone who's passionate about nature and the green and blue spaces in Thamesmead.

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



Stay safe and warm

Energy prices have been rising over the past few months, so it's not surprising many of us are thinking twice about putting on the heating this winter.

However, even though it makes sense to worry about rising costs, it's also important to make sure the way you heat your home is safe. Using paraffin, kerosene or calor gas in portable gas heaters is extremely dangerous. They give off carbon monoxide, which can risk your life and your neighbours' lives.

They pose a higher risk of fire or explosion and make carbon dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, and sulphur dioxide, which are also harmful to the environment. Inhaling these fumes is

dangerous, especially for pregnant women, young children, and people with asthma or heart disease.

Electric heaters and oil-filled radiators are safer and tend to be cheaper to run. You can put them in the rooms you use instead of heating the whole house.



If you're having trouble paying your energy bills, you can find advice and support at Moorings Sociable Club Advice Hub every Wednesday 9.30am – 12.30pm to help you access additional services.

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

Digi champs

Do you want to learn new online skills? Peabody's digital champions have helped more than 60 people with a whole range of IT support, from accessing on-line shopping to using video editing tools.

If you would like to get support with anything digital, come to the weekly drop-in sessions on Mondays from 9.30 to 11.30am at Moorings Sociable Club, Arnott Close, SE28 8BG or contact Georgia Mann on 07815 734 080 or at ThamesmeadCommunityTeam@peabody.org.uk for more information.

Advice Hub Thamesmead

You can access support on a range of issues including housing, immigration, benefits, family legal advice and much more at The Moorings Sociable Club, Arnott Close, SE28 8BG, every Wednesday, 9.30am-12.30pm. Just drop in or call 07815 734 080 for more information.

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

Support & Opportunities



Getting ready for a career



This summer young people in Thamesmead enjoyed some great work experience opportunities thanks to the Peabody Young People Team.

Work experience has been high on the agenda in Thamesmead after an influx of requests were made from students and local schools.

The pandemic has seen many young people missing this particularly important aspect of their learning journey, so the Thamesmead team worked hard to help bridge the gap.

Within Peabody we placed six young people from Thamesmead in some of our offices, including Westminster Bridge Road and The Moorings Sociable Club and through our partnerships we helped to facilitate a variety of work experience opportunities for local young people. These included a group of St Paul's Academy students working with Volunteer It Yourself on a live building site, an Architecture Internship at Karakusevic Carson Architects for a Harris Garrard student and paid opportunities for various local young people with the Greenwich+Docklands International Festival (GDIF).

Year 10 St Paul's Academy Student Joseph, who spent a few days at Charlton Rugby Football Club working to improve the bar area and build some benches, said: "I have built my confidence using tools, the people here really supported us".

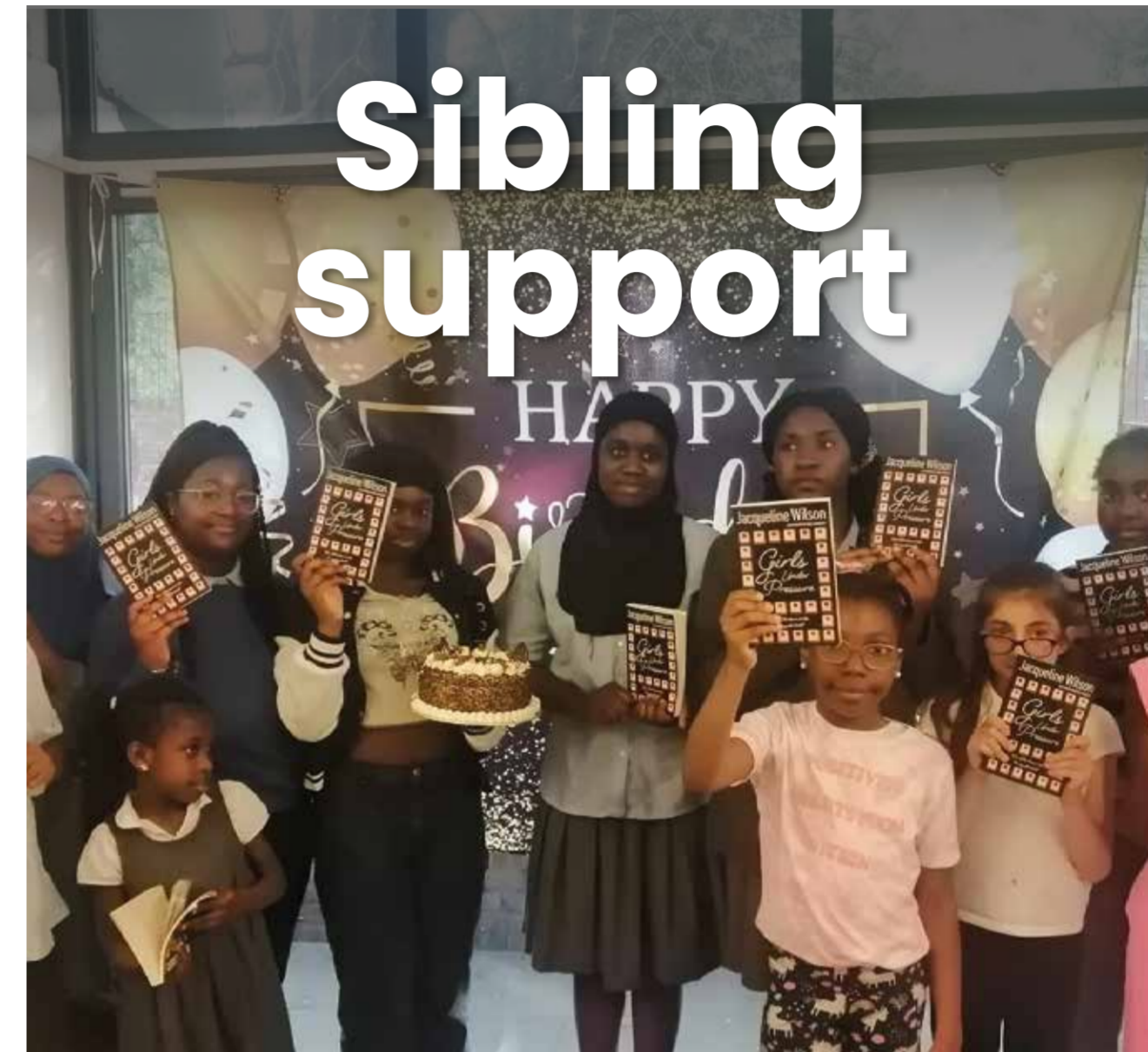
A-level Student Andy Mon completed a four-week paid internship with Karakusevic Carson Architects and said "My experience at KCA has been fantastic, it has opened my eyes to the world of Architecture. Being in the office has contributed hugely to improving my skills and I am so grateful to have been given this opportunity. Having real life experience of the working world is really important".

Our partnership with Career Ready allowed 33 young people from local schools to access a 1-2-1 mentor from professionals in various industries such as BP, Network Rail, AstraZeneca and of course Peabody and 19 young people were placed into one month paid internships with various organisations.



Peabody is supporting Career Ready again this year in both Woolwich Polytechnic school for boys and Harris Garrard Academy for year 12 students. Please apply in your school for this opportunity.

Other opportunities for placements in Peabody and our partners are often available, if you are interested in the programme or would like more information please contact Nadia.Kassab@peabody.org.uk for more information.



The Javan Coker Foundation is being supported by Peabody's Thamesmead Community Fund to deliver the SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Siblings Care programme for young people between the ages of 10 and 16 years-old.

24 young people, with SEND siblings, took part in a six-week programme centred around workshops, group talks and culminating in a trip to Jimmy's restaurant at the O2. The young people made friends and increased their confidence, as well as improving their communication and social skills.

Uduak Jesuthasan, Peabody's Children, Families & Young People lead in Thamesmead, said: "Siblings of children with SEND often find

themselves playing the role of carer even when they are younger in age. Giving these siblings a time of respite is great for increasing their confidence, self-esteem and reducing loneliness".

If you'd like to know more about this initiative go to www.thejavancokerfoundation.org/contact

If you are interested in delivering or facilitating a project for your local community then why not get in touch via thamesmeadcommunityteam@peabody.org.uk with our Community Development team. They will help you with your application to the Community Fund and answer any questions you might have.

The next round of the Thamesmead Community Fund opens on October 31 and closes on November 28. You can find out how to apply by visiting www.londoncf.org.uk and searching 'Thamesmead Community Fund'.



Mason Mile

As part of The Greenwich Leisure Limited Children Centre's Family Fun Day Summer Programme, The Mason Mile team, and its very special Mascot 'Bean', visited the Waterways Children Centre.

Family Mile Ambassadors introduced Bean to the children and their families, who have been taking part in our themed walks throughout the summer. It was a great day with lots of fun had by all, Bean even presented certificates and trophies to the children who attended!

The Family Mile is a totally free, fun activity, where families can come together to do 'Their Mile, Their Way'.

Family Miles are as accessible as possible so the whole family can enjoy having fun and getting active, with no special equipment needed and absolutely nothing to pay.

Keep an eye on The Mason Mile social media pages to see when we'll be hosting walks and activities in Thamesmead in the future.

Got a business idea and want to learn how to make it a reality?

This upcoming Hackathon is for you!

Peabody and Hatch Enterprise have collaborated to deliver FREE workshops to support our community of start-ups and aspiring entrepreneurs.

Each Hackathon consists of a 2.5 hour workshop that will enable participants to leave with a personalised plan that contains all the key components needed to launch their business.

Scan the QR codes to register or contact businessready@peabody.org.uk for more information:

22 October, 10am:



19 November, 10am:



<http://hatchenterprise.org/>




Do you want to help improve Mental Health Services in Thamesmead?

Please use the link or scan the code to participate in a short survey telling us what services you would like to see in your local area.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/B3TB2Y5>



Counselling Matters Bexley Charity number: 1182012



Become an expert in your recovery

Mind in Bexley's Recovery College is a safe space for people to learn new skills, increase their connection with others and get a renewed sense of control over their lives after mental ill health.

The program has been co-produced by people with lived-experience and professional experts.

It includes:

- Groups
- Workshops
- And courses

The Recovery College is open to anyone over the age of 18 who lives, works or volunteers in Bexley.

To register:
Visit mindinbexley.org.uk/recovery-college
Call 0208 303 8932 option 5



Registered charity: 1110130



Join the South London enterprise community and unlock your business potential

Free event, open to all individuals, SMEs or corporate partners looking to start, develop or grow

WHEN: 4pm to 5pm, the second Monday of every month

WHERE: Online | In-person every quarter followed by a networking event

Find out more and register to the next event

- 10 Oct 2022 - What types of funding are available to your business?
- 14 Nov 2022 - How to get your business procurement ready?
- 12 Dec 2022 - Premises - how to find the right setting for your business?

Contact: businessready@peabody.org.uk



IN-PERSON EVENT

ADVICE IN SCHOOLS THAMESMEAD

Would you benefit from advice on topics such as **DEBT AND MONEY MANAGEMENT, ENERGY, HOUSING, BENEFITS OR IMMIGRATION?**

Peabody's Advice in Schools programme offers you the chance to attend FREE, confidential drop-in sessions where you can access the support you need.

WHEN AND WHERE CAN I ACCESS SUPPORT?

MOORINGS SOCIABLE CLUB Arnott Close, London SE28 8BH WEDNESDAY 9.30AM - 1PM	WOOLWICH POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL FOR GIRLS 1 Birchdene Drive, SE28 8SP TUESDAY 9AM-12.30PM <small>Only available for parents whose children attend the school, and Woolwich Polytechnic School for Boys.</small>	WINDRUSH PRIMARY SCHOOL 2 Bentham Road, SE28 8AR WEDNESDAY 9AM-12.30PM <small>Only available for parents whose children attend the school, Hawkmoor Primary School, and St Margaret Clitherow Primary School.</small>
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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
07815 734080
tmadviceschools@peabody.org.uk



JOIN OUR TEAM!

Would you like to help Thamesmead residents access services they need?

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join the Positive Steps Team!

What do we want from you:

- Be available 1 day a week for 4 hours
- Able to travel to Thamesmead for the role
- Able to have empathetic conversations and treat clients with respect

Positive.steps Thamesmead For more info / to apply, call: 07837 031 127 or email: Georgia.mann@peabody.org.uk



SMOKEFREE BEXLEY

"With the right support, you're 3 times more likely to quit for good"

Bexley Stop Smoking Service

We can help you with:

- o One to one support
- o Pregnancy support
- o Quitting with a vape*
- o Telephone support
- o Tailoring the best way for you to quit

12 weeks support available throughout Bexley, in person or by phone with one of our Specialist Stop Smoking advisors. Call us on 0800 783 2514 or find out more & refer through our website. www.smokefreebexley.co.uk and click on "SIGN UP FOR A SESSION"

*Free starter vape can be provided for your quit attempt. Eligibility criteria will apply.

Bexley Stop Smoking Service is available to anyone who is registered with a Bexley GP



Is your child protected against polio?

All children aged 1 to 9 are eligible for a polio vaccine

The NHS will contact you to book an appointment for either a booster or catch up dose.

For more information go to: selondonics.org/polio-vaccination



SCAN ME

 @ThamesmeadLDN

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 @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



Thousands came along to see the Fields of EveryWhen hot air balloon in flight this summer. The balloon showcases more than 200 pieces of art, all inspired by the stories and experiences of Thamesmead residents and those with a connection to the town. Take a look at www.g-foew.art for more information on the balloon, the stories and the artists.