
Thamesmead newsletter

April 2018



Waterfront update

Transport for London (TfL) has been asked by the Mayor of London to investigate how the Docklands Light Railway (DLR) can be extended from Gallions Reach in Beckton, to north Thamesmead, and potentially beyond. The DLR extension would be a real game changer for Thamesmead. Not only would it be easier for residents to travel across London, it would also make it easier for visitors to get here, attracting more people to the area.

The DLR extension would unlock many possibilities for development and regeneration across north Thamesmead, in particular the Thamesmead Waterfront development opportunity. Initial work suggests that the DLR could enable a new community to be developed on the riverside, near Gallions Park. It could also support a new layout of the existing town centre, making it function better for both new and existing residents and businesses.

Due to the scale and long-term nature of the Thamesmead Waterfront project, we will be seeking a strategic partner to work with us to develop a masterplan and business plan for the Waterfront site. We have narrowed our potential partners down to two and will be announcing our final decision in the summer.



Window replacement programme

We will be replacing the windows in 19 of the tower blocks at Parkview, Southmere and Wolvercote. We know that replacing these windows is really important to those residents affected and that's why we will be putting in new double glazed windows. This will improve the energy efficiency of the buildings, make it cheaper for them to heat their homes, and help to reduce damp and condensation.

We'll be submitting a planning application shortly and will then select contractors to carry out the work.

We have written to residents and will do so again once we've appointed a contractor and to arrange a time for us to access their home and put the windows in.

We hope to start this in autumn this year and expect it to take around 18 months for us to complete.

Fire doors

As well as putting in windows, we'll also be replacing the front door on each flat this year so they meet the latest fire safety requirements.

We'll also carry out a survey on the Parkview and Southmere towers to help us plan which kitchens, bathrooms and boilers may need work done to them.

If you have any questions, please contact us at: Thamesmead.Regen@peabody.org.uk. You can also call into the new Information Hub at Yarnton Way.

Yarnton Way Wall

Once the window replacement programme has finished, we will be progressing our plans to knock down the wall. This will open up the space so we can improve the landscaping between the homes.

GLA funding gives £100k boost to Place & Making Institute

The Greater London Authority (GLA) has given £100,000 to help with developing plans for the Place and Making Institute so it can create all different types of opportunities for people to shape the places of the future, with input from construction, development, education, housing, planning and local government.

We will be working closely with our partners, London Borough of Bexley and London South East College, to establish the Institute as a centre of excellence. It will cover areas such as construction, development, enterprise and innovation. The Place and Making Institute will work with industry to help tackle the skills gaps that needs to be closed to achieve the ambitious levels of growth planned across London and the south-east.

To find out more about the new opportunities available, please visit <http://www.placeandmakinginstitute.co.uk> and complete the online form.

Artist impression of the new Southmere Village Square



Southmere Village

We will be appointing the building contractor on Southmere Village in the next few weeks.

To find out the latest information please visit: www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk



The Reach

We are making good progress on The Reach which is located on the corner of Thames Road and Western Way. We are currently putting scaffolding up on each wing of the building so we can lay the bricks. The final brick will be put in place within the next few weeks.

The Reach is a new development of 66 homes, designed by award

winning architects, Pitman Tozer. The development forms part of the Greater London Authority's £47.5m investment for Thamesmead as part of their Housing Zone programme.

The scheme will offer 52 shared ownership and 14 affordable rent homes, a spacious communal garden and a commercial unit on the ground floor.

We expect to complete in June 2019.



The Information Hub now open

The Information Hub at 216 Yarnton Way, DA18 4AX will be open from 11am - 4pm every Tuesday and Wednesday and the first Saturday of every month.

Please drop in to discuss all things Thamesmead, whether that be our future regeneration plans, to find out about community events or to view our exhibition space, which is currently showing a 50th Anniversary archival exhibition of photographs of Thamesmead.

There is also a full scale 3D printed model of Thamesmead and you can come and try our virtual reality tour.

The Hub is also a community space with events coming up over the next few months, so please keep your eyes peeled for those. You can contact Sarah-Jane Day, Thamesmead Information Manager, for more information Sarah-Jane.day@peabody.org.uk or drop into the Hub.

Improvements to Wolvercote Road ball court

In the next few months we will be starting to refurbish the ball court at the end of Wolvercote Road, next to Radley House.

The works will include:

- removing the existing brick wall surround, ramp and the set of steps next to the ball court
- resurfacing the court and installing a new outdoor gym, basketball and goal equipment
- a new pathway on Wolvercote Road to provide better access to Yarnton Way and Maran Way.

While work takes place the ball court will be fenced off and closed for use. The parking bays opposite Radley House, on Wolvercote Road, will also be out of use during this time. We expect to open the new facilities in October for everyone to use.

Farewell to old branding

Back in January 2014 Gallions Housing Association formally joined the Peabody Group, and in July 2017 Peabody and Family Mosaic also merged to form a new housing group called Peabody.

We recently wrote to all our customers explaining details of the merger. We explained that tenancies and leases will remain the same and will not change because of the merger. Support services, and the staff that provide them, will not change either.

However, the Gallions and Family Mosaic branding will now disappear. You can find more information at: www.peabodygroup.org.uk



Green spaces around Parkview and Southmere

Over the past three months we have been doing trials to improve the area around the buildings on Parkview and Southmere by putting in park benches and planter boxes and we've asked residents for their feedback. We hope to extend these trials very soon to include improved lighting.

We'd like to thank everyone who has let us know their thoughts on our public realm improvement trial but for those who haven't had a chance there's still time to let us know what you think of our other trials. You can drop into our new information hub and tell us in person or online by completing a brief form <https://thamesmeadpublicspaces.commonplace.is>

We've received an overwhelmingly positive response. These comments were incorporated into our planning application which has now been submitted. Over the next few weeks we will also be doing soil testing.

Our improvements to the outside space around the buildings at Parkview and Southmere will make the area better and safer with well-lit walking routes.

TIM 50

1968—
2018

Thamesmead 50th Fund

A year long fund for individuals, community groups and local businesses to make a difference to Thamesmead.

Apply for grants between £200 and £2000 to bring your community project to life or support your local business.

Visit www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk/50thfund for more information and to download an application form. No deadline, applications will be assessed by a resident steering group throughout the year.

Thamesmead 50th Fund



 Peabody

Design This Brutal House Photography Paul Sanders



50th anniversary events and activities

Happy Birthday Thamesmead! 50 years ago, on the 3rd July 1968, the Gooch family moved to Thamesmead. Since then, Thamesmead has grown and changed over the decades welcoming new communities from all over the world.

To mark the 50th anniversary we have been collecting ideas from the local community.

We will be celebrating Thamesmead's heritage by hosting a range of exciting

events and activities, and launching some new projects for the future.

There are plenty of opportunities to get involved and we are always open to new ideas so please get in touch with Adriana.Marques@Peabody.org.uk and Lisa.Drew@Peabody.org.uk in the Thamesmead Culture Team.

You can also find more information on our website www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk



The Moorings Archive and other projects

Verity-Jane Keefe is artist in residence for the Moorings, Thamesmead Stage 3 and will be launching various projects throughout 2018:

The Moorings Archive is an online collection of archival material, ephemera, found objects, local folklore and legend, presented together as both a contemporary archive and as a research tool, celebrating everything that makes The Moorings, Thamesmead Stage 3 what it is, with its everyday brilliance and more. You can submit your own archival material, anecdotes, objects and photographs at hello@verityjanekeefe.co.uk

The Earwig was a community pamphlet that was published by The North Thamesmead Social Association from October 1975 to 1977. From Spring and hopefully beyond, the Earwig will be published once again for and about the residents of Thamesmead Stage 3. If you live on Stage 3 and would like to be involved, please email hello@verityjanekeefe.co.uk

Artist led walks of Thamesmead Stage 3, The Moorings

Join artist Verity-Jane Keefe for a monthly walk around Stage 3 of Thamesmead to find out more about the area, her residency and work on the Moorings, the Earwig Press and how you can get involved. Verity will be joined by local experts, who will contribute to the walks. For more information and to sign up, email hello@verityjanekeefe.co.uk

Do you have photographs of Thamesmead?

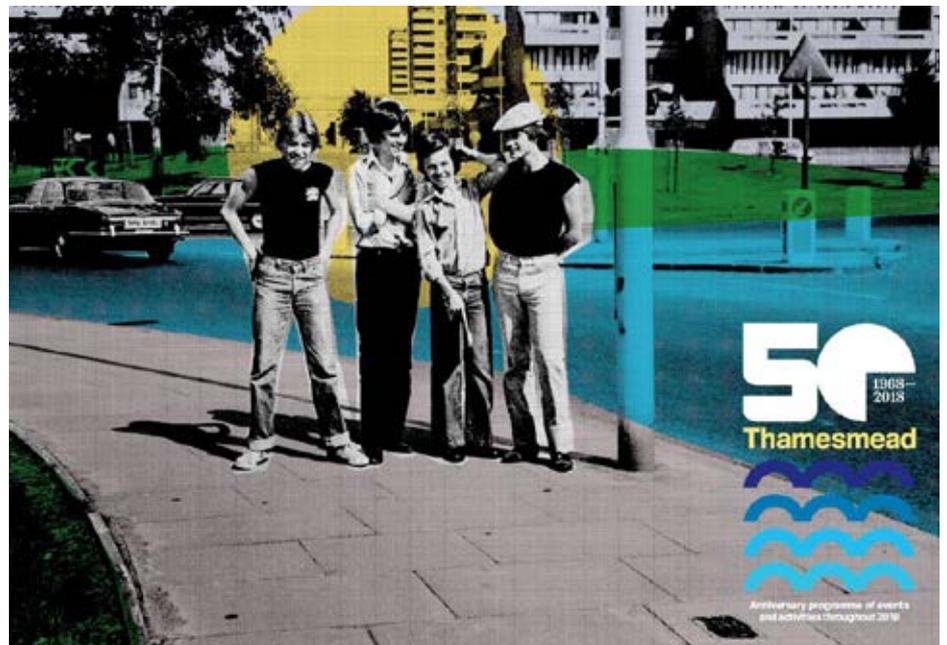
To celebrate 50 years of Thamesmead, we will be publishing a new book of the town's history from 1968 – 2018 later this year.

Designed by acclaimed designer and art director Peter Chadwick, it will be a photographic history of everything that has made Thamesmead over the years. We are looking for archival images

from all Thamesmead residents old and new, that capture daily life and personal moments.

If your photograph is included, you will receive a free copy of the book which will be published in November 2018.

Please send any photographs to Peter Chadwick by email at peter@popularuk.com, or drop prints into Lisa Drew at the Thamesmead Information Hub on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.



Launch of the Thamesmead 50th fund

We've launched a new community fund, with grants between £200 and £2,000, to give individuals, community groups and local businesses

the opportunity to deliver activities in Thamesmead which connect the local community.

To apply or find out more, please visit www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk/50thfund

Coming up in April



Save the date

Opening of TACO!

Saturday 28 April
30 Poplar Place
Thamesmead
SE28 8BA

Join us as we open TACO (Thamesmead Arts and Culture Office) in Poplar Place, a new space for artist led projects, screenings, talks, exhibitions, workshops and community participatory art projects.

Drawing on the rich heritage of Radio Thamesmead, TACO's first major project of the year will be piloting a new community radio station for the future.

Please join us for food and drinks on Saturday 28 April to find out more about how you can get involved in the radio station and future projects.

For more information please visit www.taco.org.uk or email info@taco.org.uk



Join us on Saturday 14th July to celebrate Thamesmead's 50th birthday party with a festival to celebrate all things Thamesmead! More details to come.



George Plemper's Recollections

Saturday 21 April, 6pm
Thamesmead Information Hub
216 Yarnton Way, Thamesmead,
DA18 4AX

Join famed Thamesmead photographer, George Plemper, as he talks us through his photography collection of Thamesmead from

the mid to late 70s. Join in with his stories and memories of teaching at the Riverside School.

This historical exhibition celebrates 50 years of Thamesmead since 1968 and features archival photos and material from the Bexley Archives and London Metropolitan Archive, and former Thamesmead teacher and resident George Plemper.

Focusing on the histories of local residents, we would like to invite you to come and share your own stories, memories and photos of Thamesmead to add to the exhibition.

Refreshments will be provided but space is limited, so please arrive early to reserve your seat!



50 Years On Thamesmead

A Heritage Exhibition 17 February — 1 June 2018



This historical exhibition celebrates 50 years of Thamesmead since 1968 and features archival photos and material.

The exhibition is open 11am - 4pm every Tuesday, Wednesday and the first Saturday of the month at the Thamesmead Information Hub, 216 Yarnton Way, DA18 4AX.



Design: This Brutal House / Image: Bexley Archives



£2m community and enterprise hub for Thamesmead

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, has granted Peabody £1.15m through the 'Good Growth Fund' towards a new £2m community and enterprise hub in Thamesmead.

The project will transform the 1970s buildings above the existing shops in Arnott Close as well as the empty arches on Byron Close into flexible spaces which will be able to host a range of services including: community

meetings, activities and events, flexible and affordable enterprise space and space for skills and training.

Over 80 residents, businesses and community groups supported us in our bid for the money. The project is part of our long-term plan to invest in the Moorings through our public realm improvements, creating new community facilities and creating opportunities for local people.

The Mayor launched the Good Growth Fund to help create a city where no community is left behind and everyone has the opportunity to fulfil their potential.

We worked with architects and urban designers Levitt Bernstein and Project Orange on the proposals to make better use of outdoor spaces which weren't being used and to create attractive public spaces. The project is due to complete in early 2020.

Contact us

Online: www.ThamesmeadNow.org.uk
Email: Thamesmead.Regen@peabody.org.uk
Phone: 0300 123 1237

Visit us

The Information Hub
216 Yarnton Way, DA18 4AX
Open from 11am - 4pm every Tuesday and Wednesday
and the first Saturday of every month

Find out what's happening across Thamesmead

Sign up to the Thamesmead e-newsletter. All you have to do is email ThamesmeadNow@Peabody.org.uk adding 'Sign me up' in the subject line.

www.ThamesmeadNow.org.uk

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