THAMESMEAD FESTIVAL 2017
PROGRAMME

Fri 15th Sep
Sat 16th Sep
Sun 17th Sep

WISH YOU WERE HERE
**HELLO!**

**WELCOME TO THE**

**THAMESMEAD**

**FESTIVAL**

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE

Come to the festival and celebrate the past, present and future of Thamesmead during this weekend, which promises something for everyone. Featuring the best of Thamesmead’s creative talent, we’ll be celebrating everything about the town including its unique green open spaces, iconic buildings and waterways.

From walking adventures, a trip on a double decker story bus and a virtual reality tour of Thamesmead to the Archway Project’s 35th birthday celebrations, sports activities and a carnival on top of Gallions Hill – there is so much to discover. You can join us for our launch party and have glorious fun at the Thamesmead Town Fete. Be mesmerised by the light spectacular on Southmere Lake and fish for stories by Birchmere Lake. All this on top of the relaunch of Thamesmead’s hidden gem, Tump 53 nature reserve, and having the chance to look around a number of flagship buildings as part of Open House London, which is taking place over the same weekend. This includes the historic Crossness Pumping Station and a chance to see the Lakeside Centre mid refurbishment before it opens next year as a new cultural hub in Thamesmead.

This is your chance to enjoy Thamesmead, be it as a spectator, artist, performer, stall holder or volunteer and let’s not forget your pets - there’s a chance for them to shine too at the Thamesmead Town Fete Pet Show on Saturday.

We hope you enjoy the weekend. Now all there is to do is read through the programme, mark what you want to see and do, and come along and enjoy yourself.

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**THAMESMEAD FESTIVAL LAUNCH PARTY**

**Fri 15th Sep**

6.30pm - 11.00pm

At The Link Thamesmead

Join us for the launch party of the 2017 Thamesmead Festival, presented in association with Global Fusion and Theatre Street Performing Arts. Featuring international music, theatre, poetry, lantern making and an art exhibition from Bow Arts and students from Linton Mead and Bishop John Robinson Primary Schools. Come early to enjoy free welcome drinks and free buffet including delicious West African flavours.

- **6.45pm** Vine Choir performance
- **7.00pm** Welcome speeches
- **7.15pm** Bantu Arts drumming troupe and dance
- **7.45pm** Theatre Street Performing Arts
- **8.00pm** Lady Unchained, spoken word and music, present a poem inspired by Thamesmead
- **8.15pm** Eben Oke and the Yoruba Souljazz DJ and dance
- **9.00pm** Eben Oke and the Yoruba Souljazz DJ & dancing
- **9.30pm** Eben Oke and the Yoruba Souljazz
- **10.15pm** DJ and dance the night away

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**PARTNERS**

We are thrilled that the festival is being produced and programmed by Emergency Exit Arts, based in Greenwich since 1980. The company has a national and international reputation for inspirational, celebratory and participatory performances and events. EEA has worked over many decades in the Thamesmead area with schools and communities including a huge parade to celebrate the Millennium and years of pioneering projects with the community on and around Thistlebrook Travellers’ site.

The Thamesmead Festival is brought to you in partnership with Peabody, London Borough of Bexley and Royal Borough of Greenwich, as part of the Totally Thames Festival and Open House London, with generous support from Arts Council England.

Find out more about everything featured in this programme by visiting: www.ThamesmeadNow.org.uk

#ThamesmeadFestival
**SPORT ACTIVITIES**

8am–6.30pm

At Sporting Club Thamesmead

Take part in the following activities provided by Now’s the Time Thamesmead and enjoy the view from the bar.

- **11am** Walking football 5 a side tournament, £1 per person*
- **12pm** Family social ride. Please note bikes are available to hire, subject to availability*
- **12pm–6pm** Table tennis tournament, £1 entry

*Pre-booking is essential: To book email: ntt@peabody.org.uk or call: 020 3828 4920

**A-Z THAMESMEAD ART EXHIBITION**

12pm - 4pm

At Parkview Hub

See an A-Z of Thamesmead’s creativity, with an exhibition combining artwork by local artists, and work made in the area. Also on show will be a new 3D architectural model of Thamesmead. Featuring artists including Lisa Drew, Mat Jenner, Nina Manandhar, Mary Martins, Raymond Ukwenya, Rya, Siobhan Schwartzberg and Chris Waite.

**RAP & RHYME WORKSHOP**

11am - 12pm

At Thamesmead Library

Giggles, words and more at your local library with comedy performance poet Neal Zetter, brought to you by the Bexley Library team.

**THE ARCHWAY PROJECT’S 35TH BIRTHDAY ACTIVITIES**

12pm–5pm

At The Link Thamesmead & Northern Arches in The Moorings

Join the Archway Project as they celebrate their birthday in style, including bicycle skills workshops, Dr Bike surgeries, go-karting and motorbike try outs, engineering taster sessions, and a bake off with a difference.

In the Northern Arches, where the Archway Project will be expanding into next year, visit the Pop Up Bike Shop offering a range of bikes to hire, second-hand bikes for sale, and learn to ride sessions from 12 - 5pm.

Start your visit at The Link for detailed locations and timings of all activities.

**THE BUILDING OF A NEW TOWN - AN ARCHITECTURE TOUR OF THAMESMEAD**

11am-1pm

Starting at the Barge Pole

Discover Thamesmead’s iconic architecture with Bexley archivist, Simon McKeon, on this two-hour guided walking tour. Learn about the origins of Thamesmead and how and why this ‘New Town for London’ was built by the Greater London Council almost 50 years ago.

Pre-booking is essential: To book email: archives@bexley.gov.uk

**THE TEA PARLOUR**

Meet the giant tea lady, Bridie, as seen on Britain’s Got Talent. Abbey Wood WI invite you to enjoy their home-made cakes and teas plus locally made jam for sale.

**THE LOUNGE**

Relax in our outdoor living room and enjoy chats, raps and stories. Artists will be on hand to help you make your own lantern to float on the lake at the Wish You Were Evening Spectacular.

**WISH YOU WERE HERE**

**THE THAMESMEAD TOWN FETE**

2pm-7pm

At Southmere Park

Join us for an afternoon of free entertainment, dancing, delicious food, arts and crafts, the Thamesmead Pet Show and plenty for children and adults to enjoy.

**THAMESMEAD PET SHOW**

All animals welcome! Prizes for best celebrity lookalikes and more! Hosted by safari superstars, Bunty and Bob Darwin.

Cats Protection are on hand to advise on the best care a cat can get should you have your moggy with you for the pet show!

Please contact amaya.dent@eea.org.uk with your pet entry.

**TOWN FETE MARKET PLACE**

A showcase for local businesses selling affordable meals and sweet treats. Plus the craft market – perfect for buying unique gifts from your local makers.

**Totally Thames presents... SOAPBOX ART AND SCIENCE**

Remarkable women in science will be on hand to amaze you with their latest discoveries and to answer the science questions you have been burning to ask. Look out for bat simulators and giant pictures of volcanoes.

**KIDS CAPERS**

Face painting, balloons, circus skills and inflatables. Meet the Merrymaker on his bicycle and he’ll create a poem just for you.

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THE KINO VAN
Showing incredible footage from the 70s and 80s from the London Community Video Archive (LCVA), as well as photographs of Thamesmead taken by local young people during their summer photography programme ‘Archie: Thamesmead’ run by local filmmaker Siobhan Schwartzberg.

THE WELCOME BUS
Come on board and get your free health MOT.

PEABODY INFO POINT
Come and chat to Peabody staff about your community and home, and take part in fun activities for under 12s based on our Environmental Services superheroes!

THAMESMEAD’S GOT TALENT
Live music, dance and spoken word from local artists – a treat for the ears and eyes!

2.00pm Firefly Fitness – dance your socks off and feel good with your local fitness group
2.20pm Vine / Father’s House Choir from your local church at The Link Thamesmead
2.45pm Prestige School of Dance present their latest piece
3.00pm Jerusha sings – acoustic soul from this Thamesmead songstress
3.20pm Dynamix Street Dance – Straight out of Thamesmead, as seen on TV!
3.35pm Matrix – local rising star Shomari
3.50pm Utopia Cheerleaders – The area’s very own cheer squad
4.00pm The Thamesmead Pet Show – Local pets & their owners strut their stuff!
5.00pm Jecoliah Frimpong – soul & pop classics from this Thamesmead talent
5.25pm Kwame Augustine – bespoke poetry and spoken word
5.40pm Live Music Extravaganza
6.20pm Greenwich and Docklands International Festival presents... "BEAUTIFUL THING" Jamie and Ste, the central characters in Beautiful Thing, dance a romantic duet in tribute to the closing scene of Jonathan Harvey’s iconic play, which tells the love story between two young men growing up in Thamesmead in the early 90s. Choreographed by Robby Graham (Angels In America – National Theatre), this is a preview of GDIF’s major new production for 2018
6.30pm Finale Dance Party with Beautiful Thing
6.40pm Wish You Were Here – lantern procession begins in Southmere Park and ends at Southmere Lake for a beautiful waterside spectacular with fireworks and lights

THAMES 21
Find out about river conservation with fun interactive activities – dragonfly craft, minibeast pond dipping, games and more.

CROSSNESS GOLDEN TICKETS
Exclusive! Children, swing by the Crossness Pumping Station craft stall and make your golden ticket for Open House London access on Sunday, accompanied by one lucky adult! Tickets limited.

THEMESSMEAD TOWN FETE
WISH YOU WERE HERE
SPECTACULAR
7pm-8.30pm At Southmere Lake
See Southmere Lake and the iconic towers as you’ve never seen them before. Our festival producers, Emergency Exit Arts, will entrance you with vibrant lighting, mesmerising music, sparkling pyrotechnics and illuminated floating sculptures created by local artists. Join us for a magical lantern procession and see the beautiful creations floating on the lake as you make a wish for the future.

Illuminated floating sculptures created by artists George Charman, Jo Paul, Phyllis Smith (Rima and McRae) and Jonny Stockbridge, and with thanks to Southmere Boating Club.

MAKE YOUR OWN WISH LANTERNS
At these free public workshops
Drop-in on one of our lantern making workshops to work with professional artists to make your own floating lantern and become part of the magical lantern procession at the Saturday Evening Spectacular at the Thamesmead Festival.

Everybody welcome!

PROCESsION STARTS SAT 16TH SEPTEMBER AT 7PM FROM SOUTHMERE PARK
Thanks to Schools and Children’s Centres: Bishop John Robinson, Discovery, Heronsgate, Waterways, Willowbank, Woolwich Polytechnic.

Sat 16th Sep cont.

2.00pm Firefly Fitness – dance your socks off and feel good with your local fitness group
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At Thamesmead Library, Sat 9th Sep, 10am-1pm & Mon 11th Sep, 4pm-6.30pm
Launch Party at The Link Fri 15th Sep, 6.30pm-8.30pm
Town Fete at Southmere Park Sat 16th Sep, 2.30pm-5.30pm

Thanks to Schools and Children’s Centres: Bishop John Robinson, Discovery, Heronsgate, Waterways, Willowbank, Woolwich Polytechnic.

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VENUES

1. BARGE POLE
32 Coralline Walk, SE2 9SU

2. BIRCHMERE PARK
SE28 8AP

3. CROSSNESS BEAM ENGINE HOUSE
The Old Works, Thames Water S.T.W., Bazalgette Way off Harrow Manorway, SE2 9AQ

4. GALLIONS PARK & GALLIONS HILL
22 Defence Close, SE28 0NU

5. HERONSGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL
Whinchat Road, SE28 0EA

6. LAKESIDE CENTRE
Bazalgette Way off Harrow Manorway, SE2 9BS

7. LESNES ABBEY
Abbey Road, DA17 5DL

8. PARKVIEW HUB
212-214 Yarnton Way, DA18 4DG

9. SOUTHMERE LAKE
(Next to The Link Thamesmead), Bazalgette Way off Harrow Manorway, SE2 9BS

10. SPORTING CLUB THAMESMEAD
Bayliss Avenue, SE28 8NJ

11. THAMESMEAD LIBRARY
(Next to The Link Thamesmead), Bazalgette Way off Harrow Manorway, SE2 9BS

12. THE LINK THAMESMEAD
Bazalgette Way off Harrow Manorway, SE2 9BS

13. TUMP 53
(Next to Hawsmoor Primary School), off Bentham Road and Claridge Way, SE28 8AS

14. SOUTHMERE PARK
Hartslock Drive, SE2 9XA
Sun 17th Sep

GET ACTIVE WITH NOW’S THE TIME
9.30am–3pm
At Sporting Club Thamesmead
10.00am    Family One Mile
10.00am    Thamesmead 5k Run – Early bird special £5 per person, £8 on the day
12.00pm    Family rounders*
2.00pm    Mixed netball tournament £1 entry*
*Pre-booking is essential: To book email: ntt@peabody.org.uk or call: 020 3828 4920

POP UP BIKE SHOP
10.00am–2.30pm
At Parkview Hub
Pop-up bike shop offering a range of bikes to hire and second-hand bikes for sale, also family bike maintenance workshops (10am – 12pm) and introduction to road cycling (12.30 – 2.30pm).

THAMESMEAD TREASURES

A-Z THAMESMEAD ART EXHIBITION
11am–4pm
At Parkview Hub
See an A-Z of Thamesmead’s creativity, with an exhibition combining artwork by local artists, and work made in the area. Also on show will be a new 3D architectural model of Thamesmead and a virtual reality experience of Thamesmead to try out. Featuring artists including Lisa Drew, Mat Jenner, Nina Manandhar, Mary Martins, Raymond Ukwenya, Rya, Siobhan Schwartzberg and Chris Waite.

ANIMATION WORKSHOPS
2pm–4.30pm
At The Link Thamesmead
Eye Want Change and Institute of Contemporary Arts host an afternoon of animation films and a practical animation workshop. Be guided through the basics of making 2D and 3D stop motion animations on your phone, with inspiration from a selected screening of short animations made by young filmmakers for Random Acts. Please bring your phone with you! Perfect for 11–16 year olds.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP GARDEN LAUNCH
2pm–5pm
At The Link Thamesmead
Join local artist Jonny Stockbridge, to celebrate the opening of a new community garden, which has been made with local students and volunteers over the last year featuring beautiful mosaic tile work, stencils and bottle top stamps. Come and decorate a tree trunk, admire the sparkling seating area and ball sculptures. Have a cup of tea and a sandwich and find out how you can get involved in this new garden for everyone.

HARVEST FESTIVAL
4pm–6pm
At Heronsgate School
Come and try multicultural harvest food from around the world. Speaker Simon Allaby of the 6:19 Trust tells his story. Food is free but donations are welcome.

STORYTELLING BUS TOUR
All aboard the storytelling bus! Our red double decker rolls into Thamesmead promising a tour of the area as you’ve never known it before courtesy of our cheery bus conductor. Puppeteers and other exciting characters also on board – perfect for little people.

Starting at Parkview Hub

TOUR ONE – 11am–12.45pm
Park View Hub > Birchmere Park Car Boot Sale > Tump 53
Stop 1: Parkview Hub – An exhibition of local artists’ work and a quick bite from the picnic spread. Then hop on the bus and head to
Stop 2: What’s Your Angle? Birchmere Park Car Boot Sale – Amongst the Sunday hubbub of the car boot sale, you’ll find a special anglers’ den down by the lake dedicated to the magic of stories and spoken word.
Stop 3: Tump 53 – Thamesmead’s newly launched nature reserve including mini beast hunts and marshmallow toasting.

TOUR TWO – 1pm–2.45pm
Park View Hub > Tump 53 > Gallions Hill
Stop 1: Park View Hub – A-Z of Thamesmead artists’ exhibition
Stop 2: Tump 53 Nature reserve – Tree identification and build a bug hotel
Stop 3: 2.00 – 4.30pm – Carnival of Air (see pg 12), Arrive at Gallions Park and Gallions Hill, West Thamesmead. Meet the Meerkats, jump on the jungle inflatable, make windmills and join the carnival.

Pre-booking for FREE bus tour essential: To book visit: https://goo.gl/TnSp6W
Sun 17th Sep cont.

WHAT’S YOUR ANGLE?
BIRCHMERE PARK CAR BOOT SALE

11am – 2pm
At Birchmere Park

Among the Sunday hubbub of the car boot sale, you’ll find a special anglers’ den down by the lake dedicated to the magic of stories and spoken word. Sit back and enjoy incredible tales from internationally acclaimed storyteller, Tuup. Children can go fishing for stories in our story pool and write their own story on magic sparkling fish, while adults can have a natter and contribute to discussions about our community. What’s your angle on life in Thamesmead? We can’t wait to hear it!

POPE-UP CINEMA LAUNCH

‘BACK TO THE FUTURE’

Doors 5.30pm, film at 6pm
At The Link Thamesmead

Join us at The Link as we launch our monthly pop-up cinema screenings in Thamesmead with retro classic BACK TO THE FUTURE!
On the first Saturday of every month we’ll be screening a double bill of cult, classic and contemporary hits, with an afternoon show for families and an evening screening for adults.

Adults £4 and Children £2. Children under 5 go FREE, but please do book them a seat. Tickets are available on the door.
Popcorn, snacks and soft drinks available on sale!
Thamesmead Pop-Up cinema is brought to you by The Nomad, in partnership with Theatre Street Performing Arts.

THE CARNIVAL OF AIR

2pm - 4.30pm
At Gallions Hill & Gallions Park

Music and windmill making workshops for young people, inspired by the wind. Visit the Meerkats Menagerie – meet the very rare, urban Meerkats and help them build their dens. Get jumping on the jungle bouncy inflatable. Join the Tropical Mas carnival procession and get dancing in a carnival style.

3.30pm
Kinetika’s Silk River

Join us for a special arrival of 8 giant Bengal silk scrolls that will be carried along the River path from Woolwich. Each of them is decorated with artwork by communities along the Thames including contributions from Heronsgate Primary School. The scrolls tell the tales of life on the banks of the Thames Estuary in the UK and the river Hooghly in Kolkata. This is an exciting project that explores the relationship between the UK and India and connects artists across the globe. Don’t miss the flags arriving and winding their way to the top of Gallions Hill accompanied by the dulcet tones of the Woolwich Singers!

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VISIT THAMESMEAD’S FLAGSHIP BUILDINGS

Enjoy the marvels of Thamesmead’s flagship buildings which are opening their doors for the 25th annual Open House London weekend, taking place the same weekend as the Thamesmead Festival.

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE

CROSSNESS PUMPING STATION

Sunday, 10am–5pm

Visit the wonders of the Crossness Beam Engine House and pumping station, a complex of Grade I and Grade II listed buildings. Contains four of the largest beam engines in the world and amazing Victorian decorative ironwork.

Pre-booking is essential:
www.eventbrite.com (search for Crossness Pumping Station) or log onto www.crossness.org.uk

THE LINK THAMESMEAD

Saturday & Sunday, 12–6pm

An innovative state-of-the-art community hub aimed at young people while offering something for everyone in once-disused arches under the roundabout in the sky.

SPORTING CLUB THAMESMEAD

Saturday, 8am–6.30pm
Sunday, 8.30am–5.30pm

Offering 3G pitches, grass pitches, an outdoor multi-use games area and indoor multi-use room, as well as a café-bar with panoramic views over parkland and pitches. Home for 19 football clubs including Charlton Athletic Women’s FC and many of Now’s the Time’s Thamesmead’s £1 activities. Visit on Sunday and take part in either a 5k or Family One Mile (see page 10).

THAMES INNOVATION CENTRE

Saturday, 10am–1pm

A 50,000sq ft award-winning business and innovation centre at the heart of Veridion Park, a 68-acre mixed use development with plans for a 680,000sq ft office and warehouse space.

TUMP 53’S OFFICIAL RELAUNCH

Sunday, 11am–3.30pm

Join Peabody and Wild Horizons for the relaunch of Thamesmead’s much loved nature reserve, Tump 53. Search for mini beasts and more in this gem of a garden and visit the Wellbeing bus outside for your health MOT.

Wild Horizons will be opening Tump 53 on a regular basis, offering educational workshops, volunteering opportunities and fun activities.

LANDSCAPE TOUR OF THAMESMEAD

Sunday, 2pm–4pm

Starting at Tump 53

Join Peabody’s Director of Landscape and Placemaking, Dr Phil Askew for this two-hour guided walking tour of Thamesmead’s landscapes and hidden gems.

1000 YEARS OF ARCHITECTURE - LESNES AND THAMESMEAD ARCHITECTURAL TOUR

Sunday, 11am–1pm

Starting at Lesnes Abbey

Explore the rich history of 11th Century Lesnes Abbey and 20th Century Thamesmead on this two-hour guided walking tour.

Pre-booking is essential: To book email parks&openspaces@bexley.gov.uk

LESNES LODGE BUILDING

Sunday, 2pm–5pm

Visit the newly re-opened Lesnes Lodge Building with a small exhibition showing the story of the enhancement works at the site, the fascinating archaeology found there and the amazing events taking place to engage the community. The Partnerships and Activities Manager will be on hand to answer questions and queries.

LAKESIDE CENTRE

Sat & Sun, 1pm–4pm

Expected to reopen in April 2018, the Lakeside Centre will offer 40 new affordable creative workspaces; café; enterprise kitchen; day nursery, gallery, project space and much more.

Join our partners Bow Arts, one of the largest creative workspace providers in London, who will be managing the Lakeside Centre for a hard-hat tour mid-refurbishment.

On Saturday 16th, bring your old photos and memorabilia so it can be scanned by Bexley Archives and feature as part of Thamesmead’s 50th birthday exhibition next year.

1pm tour for local residents’
2pm and 3pm tour for everyone

Pre-booking is essential:
www.eventbrite.com (search for Lakeside Centre and Thamesmead)
There is still time for you to lend a hand!
Fancy volunteering at the festival?
Contact Sarah.Feleppa@peabody.org.uk  020 3828 4936

THAMESMEAD CULTURE FORUM
Find out how you can get involved in arts and culture in Thamesmead as we start planning Thamesmead’s 50th birthday celebrations in 2018 by attending the monthly Thamesmead Culture Forum. Taking place 5–7pm on the third Monday of every month: 18 September, 9 October, 20 November and 18 December 2017.

Meetings are held in different venues across Thamesmead, please visit www.ThamesmeadNow.org.uk for more details.

OPEN HOUSE LONDON
This year Open House celebrates its silver anniversary and enjoys the backing of the London Mayor. The first event, in 1992, saw a handful of enthusiasts take bus tours around four London Boroughs to see great architecture. This year, with every London borough taking part, more than 250,000 visitors are expected to visit 800 plus buildings and places throughout the city.

www.ThamesmeadNow.org.uk
ThamesmeadLDN
ThamesmeadNow
#ThamesmeadFestival

Activities are free unless otherwise stated in this brochure or on the day.
Please note information was correct at the time of going to print but activities can change at short notice.