



# Talk of Thamesmead

The publication for Thamesmead residents

Issue Nine  
Spring  
2023



Superb spaces  
to hire  
page 7



Spring in  
Thamesmead  
page 8



South  
Thamesmead  
goes green  
page 12

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## Thamesmead shines bright

page 3



# Hello Thamesmead

Welcome to the Spring Talk of Thamesmead. It includes a big focus on Thamesmead's great community spaces so this edition's opening message is from Fiona Hamilton, whose team manages Peabody's community buildings in the town.

There's been lots of different activity across Thamesmead already this year, such as the spectacular 'Light the Way' Light Festival. You can read all about them in this edition, alongside the many exciting events coming up in the months ahead.

You'll find a very informative feature about our fantastic community spaces in Thamesmead on pages 7 to 11. We have a real variety of these communal facilities throughout Thamesmead, designed to meet all needs.

Whether you are a group of residents wanting to come together to hold activities, looking for a new hobby, need support services around cost of living, immigration and housing or just want to celebrate a special milestone, we have a range of places for hire.

These now include The Nest Community and Library Building which will fully open from mid-April, becoming a stunning new addition to South Thamesmead. It will offer a selection of wellbeing programmes, as well as a large conference room to hire overlooking the picturesque Southmere Lake.

London Borough of Bexley is looking for volunteers to help run activities in the Library, so please get in touch if you would like to find out more or get involved. Details can be found on page 4.

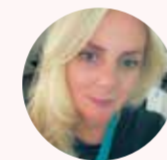
In this edition you'll also find some excellent activities for your mental and physical health including 'Men Get Healthy' and 'Dance for Wellbeing'.

Check out the Easter activities on page 11 with Tramshed and Wild Geese Theatre, make sure you secure your place for the event at Tump 53 Nature Reserve and The Moorings Sociable Club, it promises to be tremendous fun for all the family.

If you would like to find out more about hiring spaces in Thamesmead, and the activities that take place in them, get in touch with our Community Properties team on 0203 8284920 or email [CommunityhubsTM@peabody.org.uk](mailto:CommunityhubsTM@peabody.org.uk)

As always we want to know what you think about this publication and about any events or activities you think we should be writing about. Email us at [thamesmeadnow@peabody.org.uk](mailto:thamesmeadnow@peabody.org.uk) if you'd like to be featured in the next issue.

*Fiona*



**Fiona Hamilton**  
Peabody's Community Properties Manager in Thamesmead

## Contents

News	3
Local Talent	5
What's On	7
Nature	12
Support & Opportunities	15

## Get social

- @ThamesmeadLDN
- @ThamesmeadLDN
- @ThamesmeadNow
- ThamesmeadLDN

## 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](http://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](http://www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk)

### If you have a question you can:

email [thamesmeadnow@peabody.org.uk](mailto:thamesmeadnow@peabody.org.uk) use the contact form on [www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk](http://www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk) or ring us on 020 3828 3671.

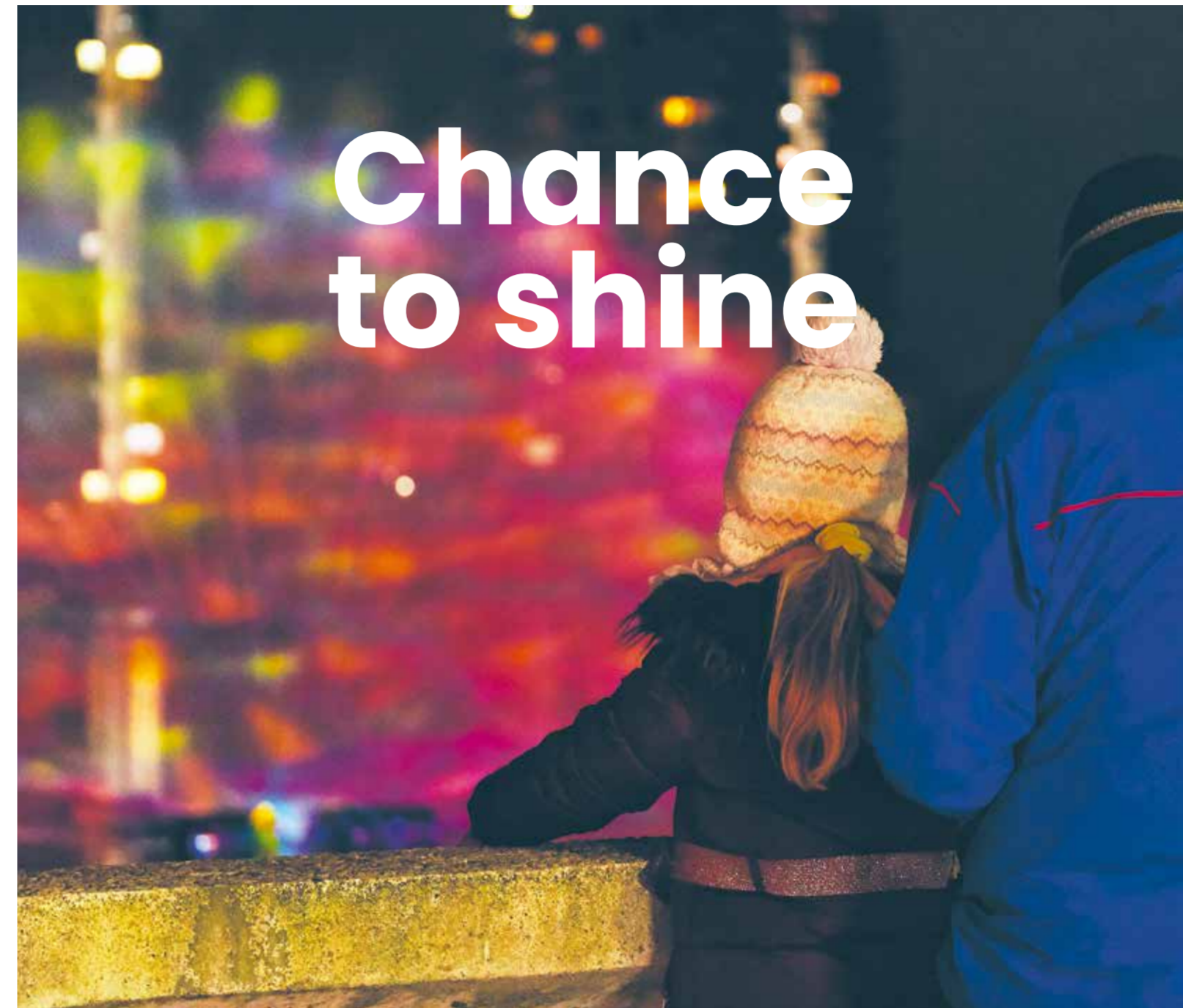


### If you'd rather speak to someone in person

email [thamesmeadnow@peabody.org.uk](mailto: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 between 10am-6pm and on Thursday between 11am-7pm by appointment only. Register your interest at [www.peabodysales.co.uk](http://www.peabodysales.co.uk) and someone will be in touch.



# Chance to shine

## Thousands of residents headed outdoors in March to enjoy another spectacular Thamesmead Light Festival.

'Light the Way' – a collaboration between Peabody and Hive Curates – created a trail of striking illuminated displays alongside a UV silent disco, the award-winning Thamesmead Travelling Cinema and a flash mob courtesy of the London College of Performing Arts.

Local people followed the twinkling walking trail from the Lakeside Centre or Sporting Club Thamesmead, along Bazalgette Way before finishing at Crossway Park.

One of the highlights on the night was 'New Frontiers', a showstopping 25m wide x 12m high water screen showing four films highlighting the beauty of Thamesmead's natural environment, including 'The Odds & Evens' by local filmmaker Simon Rattigan.

Other Thamesmead artists taking part in the Light Festival included Miyuki Kasahara, who hosted a light medallion art workshop and displayed her 'Folding Flocks' origami installation; Sarah Garrod, presenting the community-led 'Nature Through a New Lens' piece and Lisa Cheung and Alex J Tuckwood with 'STELA', which transported residents to Arctic skies with electric blue, green and violet lights.

There was also artwork in Crossway Pond which glowed using energy generated by bike pedalling and another light installation called 'Unity', designed to help people reconnect and appreciate the importance of public art.

Michael came to the Light Festival with his family and they all really liked what they saw. He said: "This is the first time I've visited Thamesmead, so I wasn't sure what to expect from the Light Festival.

"I was really impressed by the dancers dressed in the neon colours at the silent disco. My girls who are four and six years-old loved dancing with their headphones on while the performers sprayed the crowd with bubbles. It was a great event that my whole family enjoyed."

Lisa Drew, Peabody's Cultural Programme Manager for Thamesmead, said: "This year's Light Festival was all about showcasing great artwork by local artists, as well as highlighting our more hidden spaces, such as the community orchard, the Ridgeway and the underpass connecting South Thamesmead with North Thamesmead.

"There are many local groups that do outstanding work, and it was important to us to also give them a platform to share their work and ideas with a wider audience. It was lovely to see so many friends and families out, exploring what's on their doorsteps."



Please visit [www.hivecurates.com](http://www.hivecurates.com) for more information on 'Light the Way' and to read interviews from some of the artists who took part in this year's event.





## Volunteer at The Nest

The Nest is opening this April and the London Borough of Bexley is looking for volunteers to help run activities there.

From working with staff to helping with the home library delivery service to leading a range of activities or sharing your IT skills, there's something for everyone.

Bexley Council already runs a walking group at its Crayford Library and is looking to start a similar scheme in Thamesmead. They are now looking for local people to volunteer to be walk leaders.

If you've got your own ideas about what activities can be run at the library you can call Mandy Millar on 0203 045 5918 or email [mandy.millar@bexley.gov.uk](mailto:mandy.millar@bexley.gov.uk)

There will be a Volunteer Open Afternoon on Wednesday 19 April between 1pm and 3pm at The Nest where you can discover more.



Visit [arena.yourlondonlibrary.net/web/bexley](http://arena.yourlondonlibrary.net/web/bexley) to apply. You can also collect a form from any Bexley Library and return to a branch or post to:

Libraries Business Support Team  
c/o Central Library  
Townley Road  
Bexleyheath, DA6 7HJ



## Giving back

**After working for BT for more than 40 years, Denise Clarke wanted to share her decades of expertise and experience with other Thamesmead residents by becoming involved in volunteering.**

She approached Bexley Voluntary Service Council (BVSC) to see what opportunities were out there for someone with her IT background. They told her about the Digital Champions project run by Peabody.

Since signing up Denise has been giving one-to-one support to more than 20 residents, helping them to develop their digital skills, covering everything from

connecting to the internet to learning how to use tools such as PowerPoint and Zoom.

Denise said: "My experience working with Peabody has been excellent. Everyone has been welcoming, positive and willing to help.

"Volunteering has meant I've retained my skills and my confidence, and I feel I'm giving back to the community. It's given me a great sense of achievement."

If you'd like to find out more about the Digital Champions project, there are weekly drop-in sessions on Mondays between 9.30am and 11am at The Moorings Sociable Club and on Tuesdays from 9.30am to 11.30am at The Nest.

There's also going to be a volunteering fair in June where you'll be able to find out about all opportunities in Thamesmead.



Keep an eye on [www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk](http://www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk) for more details or contact Uzma Ali at [uzma.ali@peabody.org.uk](mailto:uzma.ali@peabody.org.uk) for information about the fair or volunteering in Thamesmead generally.

## Awards for community champs



**Two Thamesmead residents, Cherie Barnett and Tilly Rockall, have been recognised for their incredible contributions to young people and the local community with a Peabody Young People's Award.**

The awards recognise under 25s for their hard work creating inspirational projects which positively impact our customers and communities.

Tilly, aged 18, was awarded 'Young Leader of the Year' for overcoming her personal challenges to become a champion for young people, inspiring 8 to 12-year-olds to pursue their goals.

She also supports our Community Champions, volunteers who promote health and wellbeing or improve conditions in their local area, by helping at family days in the community and has even learnt basic sign language.

Tilly said: "It feels amazing to win the award and be recognised for the volunteering and support I provide to other young people, particularly those with special educational needs like myself."

Cherie (pictured above, second from left) won 'Volunteer of the Year' for her commitment to young people and the Thamesmead community, supporting over 500 young people at the Hawksmoor Youth Club and acting as the Community Champion at Morrisons in Thamesmead. She also helps deliver surplus food from Morrisons to struggling local families.

Cherie said: "I am deeply humbled to win this award given how many wonderful groups and individuals are out there. I'm grateful that I have had the chance to work with some amazing charities and community groups. These awards are a fantastic way for organisations from all over to showcase their work and for others to gain ideas to share with their communities."



The Peabody Young People's Fund supports community projects which put young people and their voice at the centre of their work. In the last three years, the fund has provided £279,000 towards projects and groups which engage young people in their work. Find out more at [www.londoncf.org.uk/grants/the-young-peoples-fund](http://www.londoncf.org.uk/grants/the-young-peoples-fund)

Local talent



# Black Culture Collective



## The Black Culture Collective and Peabody are again seeking creative and ambitious proposals to celebrate Thamesmead's diverse cultures and heritage.

There's £30,000 available to fund three brilliant creative projects which promote Black culture for Thamesmead residents and communities. Each of the three successful proposals will receive £10,000 and must be completed by March 2024.

Started in 2020, the Black Culture Collective (BCC) is a group of residents who help connect individuals, community groups and organisations that wish to promote African and Caribbean culture, history and heritage in Thamesmead.

Over the past three years the BCC, working with Peabody's Culture Team, has commissioned five projects.

These include: 'ACTION!' by artist Holly Graham – which unearthed the history of anti-racism action and leadership by the Black community; 'Made in Thamesmead', an animated documentary exploring the history, migration and settlement of the Black African and Caribbean community; and The LPF Kiddies Club 'Access to Art' project, which offered children the opportunity to learn about, celebrate and explore African and Caribbean arts, culture and history.

Comfort Adeneye won a commission in 2021 for her film 'A Month of Sundays', a screenplay adaptation of the West African proverb, 'it takes a village to raise a child'.

She said: "Funding like this is important, especially for residents because it gives us the chance to tell our stories and control narratives of how Thamesmead is represented. I have learned a lot about myself in the process, and I am thankful for the amazing team I worked with."

Adriana Marques, Head of Thamesmead Cultural Strategy at Peabody, added: "The past creative projects have been brilliant in showcasing Black culture in a compelling and educational way. We're looking forward to seeing what types of projects are submitted this year. The more ambitious the better!"



Deadline for submissions is 17 April 2023 and you can find out how to apply by scanning the QR code.

# Superb spaces for hire

**Thamesmead has a host of bright and airy community spaces with brilliant facilities where people can meet, learn, work and eat. You can also hire them for your own events and activities.**

From The Moorings Sociable Club to Broadwater Village Hall in West Thamesmead, right across to The Nest Community and Library Building in Southmere, there is a real variety of friendly and welcoming places you can use.

"We're really lucky to have so many great community centres in Thamesmead," says Fiona Hamilton, Community Properties Manager at Peabody. "We've got spaces for pretty much every need and there's a really diverse set of activities they're used for."

There are many activities running from the centres, giving people the chance to be active, meet with others and improve their physical wellbeing. These include coaching classes with Abbey Wood Tennis Club at Sporting Club Thamesmead, NRgDance sessions at The Nest and BoxingYoga sessions at The Moorings Sociable Club every Sunday.

BoxingYoga Instructor, Amanda Eatwell, said: "I was instantly impressed by the great hall and the light streaming through the windows [at The Moorings Sociable Club]. It's a wonderful room to run my Sunday sessions, and offers enough space for people to feel relaxed in."

As well as fitness-focussed offerings, some spaces are used as social hubs. At The Nest on Mondays between 12pm and 4pm, Listening Ears sessions are open for those aged 50+ who want to meet new people they can enjoy a meal with.

At Jubilee Hall in Central Thamesmead residents can make use of the free wi-fi between 4.30pm and 7.30pm on Wednesdays, while The Moorings Sociable Club hosts advice sessions every Wednesday from 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Centres are also used to offer services for people in need of advice or financial support, as well as those who want to learn new digital skills like how to send an email.



Scan the QR code to find out more about Thamesmead's community centres, including how you can hire a space or visit the What's On section at [www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk](http://www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk)

**The Moorings Sociable Club**  
Arnott Close,  
Thamesmead SE28 8BG

**The Nest**  
3 Cygnet Square,  
Thamesmead SE2 9FA

**Sporting Club Thamesmead**  
Bayliss Avenue, SE28 8NJ

**The Link**  
(off Harrow Manor Way)  
Thamesmead SE2 9BS

**Broadwater**  
Goosander Way,  
Thamesmead SE28 0ER

**Birchmere**  
Birchmere Park,  
Thamesmead SE28 8AL

**Arch 16**  
16 Byron Close,  
Thamesmead SE28 8AA

**Jubilee**  
Lytton Strachey Path  
(off Titmuss Av)  
Thamesmead SE28 8DU

**Atrium**  
Teeswater Court,  
Thamesmead DA18 4DG

### Also in Thamesmead:

London College of Performing Art at The Link Thamesmead  
[londoncollegeofperformingarts.com](http://londoncollegeofperformingarts.com)

Archway Project at The Link Thamesmead  
[www.archwayyouthproject.org](http://www.archwayyouthproject.org)

YouthBuild at Titmuss Avenue  
[info@youthbuild.org](mailto:info@youthbuild.org)

Little Gems Childcare provision at Manor Close Thamesmead  
[www.littlegemschildcare](http://www.littlegemschildcare)

Easy Peasy Childcare provision at Glimpsing Green Thamesmead  
[www.easypeasynursery.co.uk](http://www.easypeasynursery.co.uk)



To find out more about the community venues email [communityhubsTM@peabody.org.uk](mailto:communityhubsTM@peabody.org.uk) or call 0203 828 4920

What's going on



# Monday

## Sporting Club Thamesmead

### Cosy Corner

A free place to stay warm where you can socialise, speak to Peabody staff, use charging points and enjoy hot drinks and biscuits

**Time:** 9am-4pm

### Feel Good Coop

AM & PM massage, facial, complementary therapies

**Booking:** 07908 034081  
feelgoodcoop@hotmail.co.uk

### CACT Football girls/boys

**Time:** 5pm-7pm (Age 4-16)  
7pm-9pm (Age 12-18)

**Booking:** 0208 8502866  
www.cact.org.uk/courses

### Tennis

**Age:** 4+

**Booking:** 07835 896557  
abbeywoodtennisclub@gmail.com

## The Moorings Sociable Club

### Cosy Corner

A free place to stay warm where you can socialise, speak to Peabody staff, use charging points and enjoy hot drinks and biscuits

**Time:** 9am-4pm

### Meet Craft and share

Knitting, crochet, craft

**Time:** 10am-12:45

### Mindset Me Fit

**Time:** 11am-12pm

**Booking:** Tatiana 07479 099210

### Digital Champions

IT support drop in session

**Booking:** uzma.ali@peabody.org.uk

## The Link

### Thamesmead Gym

**Age:** open to all

**Time:** 7am-10pm

## Birchmere

### SENDitivate after school session

**Time:** 4:30-5:30

**Booking:** 07853 213605  
info@senditivate.co.uk

## The Nest

### Baby me fit

Exercise class for parents and child/babies

**Time:** 10am-11am

**Booking:** Tatiana 07479 099210

### Listening Ears

A space to meet, socialise, enjoy a meal together and take part in activities Age 50+

**Time:** 12pm-4pm

**Booking:** 07798 923657

### Prestige Dance

**Age:** 4-11

**Time:** 5pm-7pm

**Booking:** Corinna 07989 829507  
corinnadance@hotmail.co.uk

### Hot desking and meeting space

**Time:** 9am-5pm

### Come out of hiding

Mental Health charity for young people

**Time:** Various

**Booking:** 0203 8284920

## Jubilee

### Brownies & Rainbow

(term time)

**Booking:** Sandy 07958 967902

# Tuesday

## Sporting Club Thamesmead

### Cosy Corner

A free place to stay warm where you can socialise, speak to Peabody staff, use charging points and enjoy hot drinks and biscuits

**Time:** 9am-4pm

### Feel Good Coop

AM & PM massage, facial, complementary therapies

**Booking:** 07908 034081  
feelgoodcoop@hotmail.co.uk

### TDA open football training boys/girls

**Age:** 5-11

**Time:** 5:30pm-7pm

**Booking:** Robert 07931 939999

### Laugh & Workout Cardio Hit

**Time:** 7pm-8pm

**Booking:** www.laughworkout.com

## The Moorings Sociable Club

### Cosy Corner

A free place to stay warm where you can socialise, speak to Peabody staff, use charging points and enjoy hot drinks and biscuits

**Time:** 9am-4pm

### Seated Pilates

Knitting, crochet, craft

**Time:** 11:45am-12:45pm

**Booking:** Rosanna 07985 086788  
Rosannacorefitness@gmail.com

### Art Therapy Winter Warmer wellbeing

**Time:** 2pm-4pm

**Booking:** Drop in or call 07726 763865

## The Link

### Thamesmead Gym

**Age:** open to all

**Time:** 7am-10pm

## Broadwater

### Talks about long term pain and copying system

**Time:** 11:30am-2:30pm

**Booking:** www.kairosrehabilitation.org.uk

## The Nest

### Dance for Wellbeing

Greenwich Dance's weekly session of creative movement is designed to improve your physical and mental health in an inclusive and fun environment.

**Age:** Open to all ages

**Time:** 4pm -5pm

**Cost:** Pick Your Price from a range between £8 - £10 per class, booked in blocks of 10 classes

**Booking:** www.greenwichdance.org.uk

### Greenwich Dance Junior

**Time:** 5:30pm-6:30pm

**Booking:** www.greenwichdance.org.uk

### Performance Company (Adults)

Greenwich Dance's performance company for anyone aged over 18 meets regularly at The Nest to create new dance works that are performed around Greenwich and Bexley.

**Time:** 6:30pm-8pm

**Cost:** Pick Your Price from a range between £8 - £10 per class, booked in blocks of 10 classes

**Booking:** www.greenwichdance.org.uk

### Hot desking and meeting space

**Time:** 9am-5pm

### Come out of hiding

Mental Health charity for young people

**Time:** Various

**Booking:** 0203 8284920

# Wednesday

## Sporting Club Thamesmead

### Cosy Corner

A free place to stay warm where you can socialise, speak to Peabody staff, use charging points and enjoy hot drinks and biscuits

**Time:** 9am-4pm

### Feel Good Coop

AM & PM massage, facial, complementary therapies

**Booking:** 07908 034081  
feelgoodcoop@hotmail.co.uk

### CACT Football girls/boys

**Time:** 5pm-7pm (Age 4-16)  
7pm-9pm (Age 12-18)

**Booking:** 0208 8502866  
www.cact.org.uk/courses

### Tennis

**Age:** 6+

**Booking:** 07835 896557  
abbeywoodtennisclub@gmail.com

## The Link

### Thamesmead Gym

**Age:** open to all

**Time:** 7am-10pm

## The Atrium

### Tai Chi session

**Time:** 9:30-12pm

**Booking:** Drop in or get in touch with Wendy  
ttrusty@netvigatator.com

## The Nest

### Hot desking and meeting space

**Time:** 9am-5pm

### Come out of hiding

Mental Health charity for young people

**Time:** Various



The Moorings Sociable Club

# Thursday



The Link

## Sporting Club Thamesmead

### Cosy Corner

A free place to stay warm where you can socialise, speak to Peabody staff, use charging points and enjoy hot drinks and biscuits

**Time:** 9am-4pm

## The Moorings Sociable Club

### Cosy Corner

A free place to stay warm where you can socialise, speak to Peabody staff, use charging points and enjoy hot drinks and biscuits

**Time:** 9am-4pm

### SEND after school session

Run by Javan Coker Foundation.

**Time:** 4pm-6pm

**Booking:** Esther 07765331092

## The Link

### Thamesmead Gym

**Age:** open to all

**Time:** 7am-10pm

## Broadwater

### Love Soup Cafe

Free drop in session warm space for residents, fresh made soup and craft sessionsr

**Time:** 12pm-5pm

## The Nest

### Pilates with Rosanne

**Time:** 11:45am-12:45 (term time)

**Booking:** 07985086788  
rosannecorefitness@gmail.com

### Hot desking and meeting space

**Time:** 9am-5pm

### Come out of hiding

Mental Health charity for young people

**Time:** Various

## The Atrium

### Tai Chi session

**Time:** 9:30am-12pm

**Booking:** Drop in or get in touch with Wendy  
ttrusty@netvigatator.com

### Yoga with Helen

**Time:** 6pm-7pm

### Poetic Unit Youth Club

Resident only

**Time:** 6pm-9pm

## Birchmere

### Good Life Garden

Drop in to learn some gardening skills and volunteer

**Time:** 10am-4pm



## Friday



### Sporting Club Thamesmead

#### Cosy Corner

A free place to stay warm where you can socialise, speak to Peabody staff, use charging points and enjoy hot drinks and biscuits

**Time:** 9am-4pm

#### Feel Good Coop

AM & PM massage, facial, complementary therapies

**Booking:** 07908 034081  
feelgoodcoop@hotmail.co.uk

#### JR Tuition classes 11 plus and GCSE

**Time:** 4pm-6pm  
**Booking:** 07923 836454  
jrtuition@yahoo.com

#### Dynamix dance session

**Age:** 5-16  
**Time:** 5pm-8pm  
**Booking:** 07923 836454  
jrtuition@yahoo.com

#### CACT Kicks free football session

**Age:** 12-17  
**Time:** 6pm-8pm  
**Booking:** 0208 8502866  
www.cact.org.uk/courses

### The Link

#### Thamesmead Gym

**Age:** open to all  
**Time:** 7am-10pm

### The Moorings Sociable Club

#### Cosy Corner

A free place to stay warm where you can socialise, speak to Peabody staff, use charging points and enjoy hot drinks and biscuits

**Time:** 9am-4pm

#### RBG WAVE coaching

Family fun games and sport program

**Time:** 5pm-6:30pm  
**Booking:** Paul.farthing@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

### The Nest

#### Baby me fit

Exercise class for parents and child/babies

**Time:** 10am-11:30am (term time)  
**Booking:** fireflyfitness@outlook.com

#### Hot desking and meeting space

**Time:** 9am-5pm

#### Come out of hiding

Mental Health charity for young people

**Time:** Various  
**Booking:** 0203 8284920

## Saturday

### Sporting Club Thamesmead

#### Thamesmead Cycle Hub

Learn how to ride a bicycle and join others on a safe cycle tour

**Time:** 9am-2pm  
**Booking:** spond.com/landing/group/GGOKX

#### Thamesmead Cycle Hub beginners and improvers

Learn how to ride a bicycle and join others on a safe cycle tour

**Time:** TBC  
**Booking:** Via Eventbrite

#### Prestige Dance

**Age:** 4-11  
**Time:** 9am-10am  
**Booking:** Corinna 07989829507  
corinnadance@hotmail.co.uk

#### Topi Outstanding grade tuition classes

**Time:** 11am-1pm  
**Booking:** tope.duckworth@yahoo.com

#### TDA open football training boys/girls

**Age:** 5-11  
**Time:** 5pm-8pm  
**Booking:** Robert 07931 939999

## Sunday

### The Nest

#### Come out of hiding

Mental Health charity for young people

**Time:** Various  
**Booking:** 0203 8284920

### The Link

#### Thamesmead Gym

**Age:** open to all  
**Time:** 7am-10pm

#### Tennis

**Age:** 4+  
**Booking:** 07835 896557  
abbeywoodtennisclub@gmail.com

#### JR Tuition classes 11 plus and GCSE

**Time:** 9am-12am  
**Booking:** 07923 836454  
jrtuition@yahoo.com

### The Nest

#### Come out of hiding

Mental Health charity for young people

**Time:** Various  
**Booking:** 0203 8284920

### Jubilee

#### Brighter Tuition

**Time:** 10am-12:30pm  
**Booking:** brightertuition.co.uk

### The Link

#### Thamesmead Gym

**Age:** open to all  
**Time:** 7am-10pm

## This Easter



### Easter events with Tramshed and Wild Geese Theatre

Peabody is partnering with Tramshed and Wild Geese Theatre to deliver fun performances over the Easter holiday for families and children aged seven and above.

Loki, the Lord of Mischief is an active storytelling session which sees the audience join the company on the journey of a would-be hero looking to change his stars. There will be two sessions each day and a free lunch will be provided.

#### Location:

The Moorings Sociable Club, SE28 8BG

**Date:** Saturday 8 April

**Time:** Morning session - 11am-1pm  
Lunch - 1pm-2pm  
Afternoon session - 2pm-4pm

**Booking:** Book your free tickets by going to [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk) and searching 'Peabody Easter event'



### Thamesmead Creators Group

Greenwich Dance and Arts Trust Productions are looking for passionate and creative residents to help design the Gallions Park Picnic and Summer Sessions in Cygnet Square. If you know performers, have ideas for workshops or want to recommend local businesses, we want to hear from you.

**Location:** The Nest, 3 Cygnet Square, Thamesmead, SE2 9FA

**Dates:** Tuesday 11 April, Tuesday 9 May and Tuesday 23 May

**Time:** 5pm - 6.30pm

**Booking:** Register interest at [greenwichdance.org.uk](http://greenwichdance.org.uk) or just come along

**Price:** FREE



### Young Creators Group

Greenwich Dance and Arts Trust want enthusiastic and inventive Thamesmead residents aged 13-15 to help design summer sessions in Cygnet Square and Greenwich Park.

**Location:** The Nest, 3 Cygnet Square, Thamesmead, SE2 9FA

**Dates:** Tuesday 2 May and Tuesday 16 May

**Time:** 6pm - 7.30pm

**Booking:** Register interest at [greenwichdance.org.uk](http://greenwichdance.org.uk) or just come along

**Price:** FREE



### Rainbow Café returns

Peabody is delighted to be working with Waterways Children's Centre to deliver these fun, free Rainbow Café Social sessions for families and their children up to age 11 years old. Each session will start with a family-focused physical activity to get you hungry. The café will then open with food advice and tips, followed by a free nutritious lunch.

**Location:** Waterways Children Centre, SE28 0JN

**Dates:** Thursday 6 April and Thursday 13 April

**Booking:** For further details and to book call 020 8311 5491 or email [waterways@gll.org](mailto:waterways@gll.org)

**Price:** FREE



# South Thamesmead goes green

**Two under-used walking routes in South Thamesmead are to be transformed into flourishing parkland and play areas after the London Borough of Bexley granted Peabody planning permission for major landscaping works.**

The improvement works, which will take place along a green chain walk at Abbey Way and the nearby Maran Way, will mark the final part of the £3.9m South Thamesmead Garden Estate programme.

The project is being led by Peabody in partnership with the Mayor of London and environmental charity, Groundwork.

Contributing to a European funded project called CLEVER Cities, the South Thamesmead Garden Estate programme focuses on trying new ways to work with the community to create sustainable neighbourhoods that help people and nature to thrive.

The programme has been designed by muf architecture/art in association with the Community Design Collective, a group of residents recruited to help shape the design.

**The improvement works will include:**

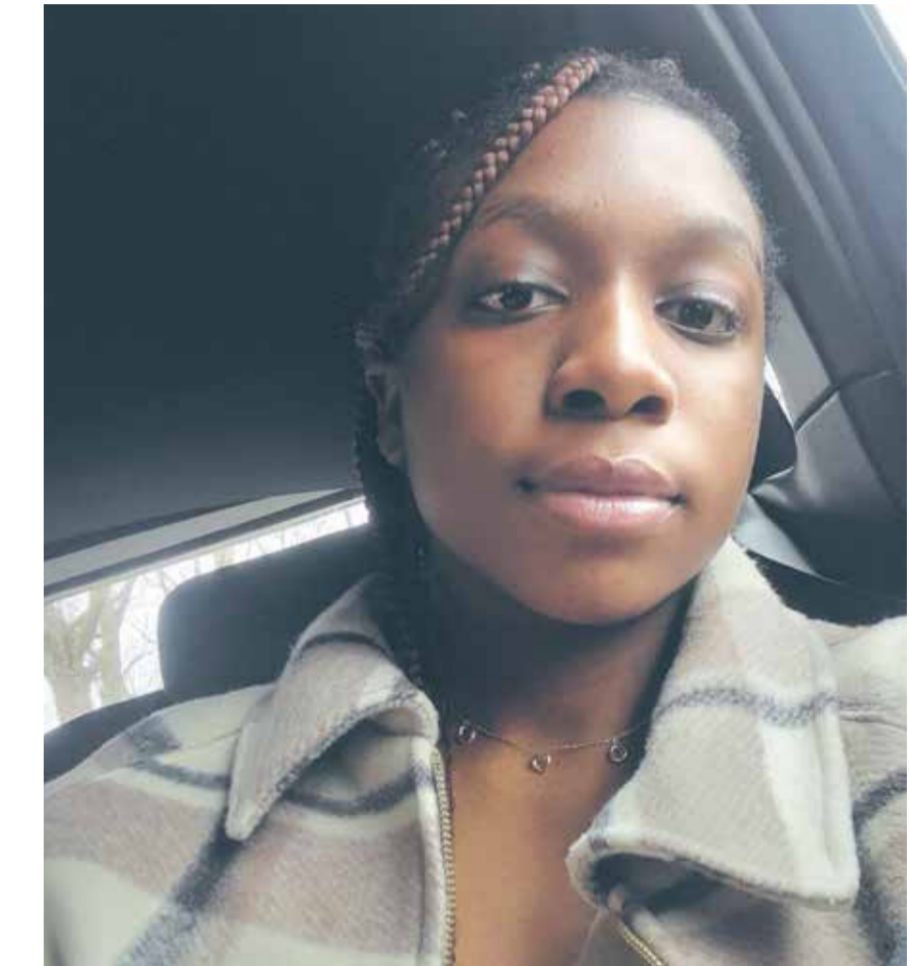
- Landscaping at Abbey Way to include a variety of exciting spaces, with refurbished pathways, planting, seating and cooking areas
- The creation of a continuous, landscaped pedestrian route at Maran Way which will include new trees and rain gardens
- New lighting on some pedestrian bridges and the underpass connecting Maran Way with Abbey Way
- Refurbishment of, and new lighting at, The Cage – a multi-use games area close to Abbey Way and an upgrade to an existing playground
- Outdoor classrooms and a bird hide at Southmere Lake at the end of Abbey Way

The improvements are being carried out by landscaping specialists, Maylim. As part of their contract, they have committed to create new opportunities for local people, including full time employment, work placements, careers support and other activities.

The landscaping works will build on the success of earlier parts of the South Thamesmead Garden Estate programme, including the completion of an edible garden at Maran Way for local people and the planting of wildflower meadows at Abbey Way.

John Hogan, a member of the Community Design Collective, said: "Our plans for the South Thamesmead Garden Estate are both ambitious and exciting. We're really looking forward to the transformation, and seeing people make the most of this revitalised green space right on their doorstep. It's wonderful to see this happening alongside the work elsewhere to breathe new life into other local shared spaces, including the edible gardens at Maran Way and the Atrium, and the Hawksmoor community garden."

## Damilola's tips for students



**Damilola Oke is a student at St Paul's Academy in Thamesmead. With GCSEs and A-Levels fast approaching for many young people, Damilola shares her tips on how to relax to take the pressure off.**

As a Year 11 student I know that our GCSEs are just around the corner, and it's essential to make the most of your Easter break to prepare for them.

Taking a break and recharging your batteries is also crucial. A great way to do both is to visit the Southmere lakeside area.

Located in South Thamesmead, Southmere Lake is a picturesque destination that offers plenty of opportunities to relax and unwind. The lakeside boasts a stunning landscape, a peaceful environment, and a host of outdoor activities.

During your Easter break you could spend time there, enjoying the fresh air and soaking up the sunshine. This will help you to clear your mind ensuring you're refreshed and ready to tackle your exams when you return to school.

In addition, you could also use this opportunity to revise for your GCSEs. You could bring along your revision materials and create a study plan, allowing you to make the most of your time while still enjoying your break.

Studying in a peaceful environment like the lakeside can be beneficial as it can help you to focus and concentrate better.



## Tump 53 is open

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

During the school year approximately 2,500 local young people visit the nature reserve to learn about woodland and water habitats, challenge themselves with activities like shelter building and play group games outdoors.

Each school holiday (excluding Christmas) the Tump is open on a Tuesday morning between 10am - 12pm for families and adults to explore.

These open mornings are supported by Waterways Children's Centre and North West Kent Countryside Partnership who run small seasonal activities. They are free to attend and children under 16 must be accompanied and supervised by an adult at all times.

**To find out more about the Tump 53 Education Programme for schools, or the holiday open mornings, visit [www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk](http://www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk) or email [msfn@peabody.org.uk](mailto:msfn@peabody.org.uk)**



**There has been lots going on recently at Crossway Community Orchard. Since 2019 the space in Crossway Park has been transformed by volunteers with new fruit trees, a large 'dead hedge' construction and the planting of a brand-new productive Willow Nursery.**

Throughout the year volunteers complete work such as pruning, planting bulbs, cutting the grass and adding habitats for birds and

other wildlife. All cuttings from trees, bushes or the grass are added to the top of the dead hedge. This slowly breaks down but serves as a boundary for the orchard and a diverse habitat for invertebrates and small mammals.

The most recent addition to the site is the Community Willow Bed. Stephen Stockbridge at Creative Nature HQ led volunteers to plant living fences and archways and 12 rows of willow that can be harvested each year for the next 20 years.

Eight different varieties of willow have been planted and in the future cuttings can be used for willow crafts, making willow domes, growing canes for climbing vegetables and lots more.



For more information about Crossway Community Orchard, including details of how you can get involved, please contact [msfn@peabody.org.uk](mailto:msfn@peabody.org.uk)



## In the swim

**Peabody's Making Space for Nature programme hosts activities to help Thamesmead's landscape thrive and also offers opportunities for residents to spend more time in nature.**

**Scan the QR code to sign up to the Making Space for Nature newsletter and be the first to know about new events!**

## Free holiday fun

Through the Royal Borough of Greenwich's Holiday Food and Fun scheme, there are free holiday club places available this Easter for children who receive or are eligible for free school meals.

There are clubs all over the borough offering everything from football to arts and crafts, so there's something for everyone's interests and a tasty lunch will be provided too.

To find your closest club and sign up for a place, visit [royalgreenwich.gov.uk/holidayfoodandfun](http://royalgreenwich.gov.uk/holidayfoodandfun)



## Looking for a job?



Sign up to our fortnightly jobs bulletin and get new jobs sent 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](http://www.peabody.org.uk/newsletter)

**Support & opportunities**







## Forums

### South London Business Forum

Second Monday of every month: online (4pm – 5pm) / in-person once a quarter (4pm – 6pm)

This Peabody-organised forum gathers business owners, local council representatives and entrepreneurs so that they can discuss opportunities, provide information, offer advice and network.

Email [businessready@peabody.org.uk](mailto:businessready@peabody.org.uk) for more information

### Thamesmead Culture Forum

The Culture Forum is now running every two months, with the next one on 5 April.

The forum is for all those interested in culture in and around Thamesmead.

Email [lisa.drew@peabody.org.uk](mailto:lisa.drew@peabody.org.uk) to join or be added to the culture forum mailing list

### Thamesmead Nature Forum

Usually the 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](mailto:msfn@peabody.org.uk) for details about future sessions

### Community Group Forum

Do you want to find out about local training and funding opportunities, network with other groups and share your ideas for how to improve things in your local community?

Join the Thamesmead Community Group Forum by contacting Uzma Ali on [uzma.ali@peabody.org.uk](mailto:uzma.ali@peabody.org.uk)

# Youth building the future



### Another group of young people have graduated from YouthBuild Ventures UK's construction programme with an inspiring ceremony at The Moorings Sociable Club.

It's the ninth time the 13-week training course has been run in Thamesmead with the participants learning skills such as plastering, drywalling, painting, decorating and tiling, as well as receiving health and safety training.

At the ceremony proud graduates collected their certificates and thanked those who had supported them throughout the course.

"The opportunity you've given us is incredible," said Louie, 18, while Larry, 24, added:

"This course has helped me develop as a person. Before I came here, I wasn't sure what I wanted to do."

Shenaaz Chenia, CEO of YouthBuild Ventures UK, told the graduates: "The 13 weeks you've gone through haven't been easy but that shows an incredible amount of commitment. It's something to be very proud of and something to take as a guiding light into your future."

Peabody's Economic Inclusion Manager, Christofi Christou, added: "YouthBuild provides a great opportunity for young people in Thamesmead to gain technical skills that they otherwise wouldn't have access to."

Previous graduates have gone on to begin apprenticeships in the construction industry or land job roles in areas including site management, scaffolding and carpentry.



To find out more about YouthBuild and how you could be part of it, please email Tomi Laguda at [tlaguda@youthbuild.org](mailto:tlaguda@youthbuild.org)

# Contact your elected rep

Your local councillor or Member of Parliament (MP) can be among the best people to contact if you're experiencing a problem or need assistance with an issue.



### Royal Borough of Greenwich

In the Royal Borough of Greenwich there are two councillors for each of the two wards in the town: West Thamesmead and Thamesmead Moorings.

Councillor 'Lade Hephzibah Olugbemi and Councillor Chris Lloyd represent West Thamesmead. Their surgeries are held at Broadwater Green Village Hall, 1a Gossander Way, Thamesmead, SE28 0ER, on the third Saturday of each month between 10am and 11am.

In Thamesmead Moorings it's Councillor Olu Babatola and Councillor Averil Lekau. They have surgeries at Thamesmere Leisure Centre, Thamesmead SE28 8RE, on the first Saturday of the month between 10.30am and 11.30am.

In addition, Councillor Babatola has surgeries on the third Friday of the month between 6.30pm and 7.30pm at the same venue. You can find out more about your Greenwich councillors at [www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk](http://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk)

### London Borough of Bexley

In the London Borough of Bexley, three councillors represent the Thamesmead East ward – Councillor Zainab Asunramu, Councillor Larry Ferguson and Councillor Mabel Ogundayo

The councillors hold their surgery on the second Saturday of the month (excluding August and December) from 10am to 11am. No appointment is necessary. Following the closure of the Thamesmead temporary library, ahead of The Nest opening, a new venue for surgeries is currently being finalised.

Visit [www.bexley.gov.uk](http://www.bexley.gov.uk) to find out where the venue is and learn more about your council representatives in the borough.

You can email Abena Oppong-Asare, the MP for Erith and Thamesmead, at [abena.oppingasare.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:abena.oppingasare.mp@parliament.uk) to book a virtual surgery. You can also visit [www.abenaoppingasare.com](http://www.abenaoppingasare.com) to learn more about her work.



## Get connected

In partnership with the London Borough of Bexley and Royal Borough of Greenwich, Peabody has launched Connecting Thamesmead – a new programme aimed at reducing social isolation.

Some residents can feel isolated and would like to do more locally to improve their wellbeing. Peabody wants to help people feel more connected to their friends and neighbours.

If you have any ideas or would like to set up activities (for example a weekend coffee morning, walking group or exercise sessions) email [ThamesmeadCommunityTeam@Peabody.org.uk](mailto:ThamesmeadCommunityTeam@Peabody.org.uk)

## Men get healthy

The Thamesmead Men's Health Forum meets once a month, focusing on a different theme around men's health and wellbeing each time.

It's a place for men to come together and learn more about a whole range of topics related to their health, meet new people and socialise with others.

There have been many positives from the recent meetings and events. One attendee said: "I am so happy that finally we have a group for men. I now feel I have somewhere I can go to discuss my problems with fellow men."

If you're interested in attending the forum, please email [thamesmeadcommunityteam@peabody.org.uk](mailto:thamesmeadcommunityteam@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:



Volunteering opportunities

Connecting you with different employers and training providers

Help writing CVs, personal statements, cover letters and job applications

Careers guidance and coaching

Preparing you for interviews



Please contact us by emailing [employment.training@peabody.org.uk](mailto:employment.training@peabody.org.uk)



Following last year's two tragic fatal stabbings in Thamesmead, local young people Sian Dell and Hayley Brackell have begun a Facebook group to tackle knife crime in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood that has already attracted more than 540 members.

They want to reduce knife crime, create safe spaces, activities and clubs for local young people and increase awareness and education of the reality and severity of knife crime.

The first of their community meetings was recently held at The Nest and focused on providing a safe space for members of the community. It was also attended by representatives of local organisations, the police, local councillors and Abena Oppong-Asare, MP for Erith and Thamesmead.

Sian said: "It is really important that the community can have their concerns heard, share suggestions and be part of helping to facilitate change. Around 40 people attended, and we have discussed our concerns, suggested ideas and connected with one another."



Sian and Hayley are planning to hold more meetings, details can be found on their Facebook group - Drop the knives, Save Lives - or they can be contacted at [droptheknives.se2@gmail.com](mailto:droptheknives.se2@gmail.com)

# Little Fish Theatre company



Over the past six months, Little Fish Theatre has run two programmes, **New Leaf** and **Embrace**, focusing on healthy relationships.

A group of students at Woolwich Polytechnic School for Girls and Harris Garrard Academy have taken part in drama workshops covering gender, sex and the law, explicit imagery and consent. Statistics show that young people between the ages of 15-16 are most likely to experience relationship abuse.

Alex Cooke, Artistic Director at Little Fish Theatre, said: "Our work shifts the focus to the young

people themselves and all the positives they will gain from not taking part in risky or abusive behaviour. This creates an environment where young people feel relaxed, completely accepted and safe to explore their opinions."

Kim Ferran, a science teacher and careers lead at Harris Garrard Academy, added: "Two students told me it was the coolest thing they had ever done, and I noticed a distinct maturity in their interactions with myself and other students afterwards."



You can follow Little Fish Theatre's progress on Instagram @littlefishtheat



The **Hundred Club** is a creative club for 5 to 12-year-olds and their siblings, parents and carers, that uses art and play to discuss social justice issues.

The club is run by artist Ruth Beale and is produced by TACO! It's free to attend and meets every month in and around Thamesmead. There is also a weekly afterschool drop-off session at The Moorings Sociable Club.

Find out how to join at [www.taco.org.uk/Hundred-Club>Returns](http://www.taco.org.uk/Hundred-Club>Returns)

## My Thamesmead - Elizabeth Obe



My Thamesmead is a new feature that gives you the chance to share your favourite things about the town with everyone.

Kicking us off with the first My Thamesmead is local student Elizabeth Obe...

**How long have you lived in Thamesmead?**  
My whole life so that's 15 years.

**Where do you live in Thamesmead?**  
In the Northern part of Thamesmead.

**What's the best thing about Thamesmead?**  
One of my favourite things about Thamesmead is the open spaces, such as parks or views of the River Thames. Additionally, I like the number and variety of shops that are not far from where I live. This really helps me find the materials or items I need.

**Where's your favourite place in Thamesmead?**  
Central Thamesmead, specifically the shops like Morrisons and Aldi.

**Where's your favourite place to eat and drink in Thamesmead?**  
KFC and Macdonald's.

**What's your favourite Thamesmead memory?**  
Going down with my scooter to look over the River Thames.

**What's the best-kept secret about Thamesmead more people should know?**  
There's this little garden behind my house which is full of trees and animals. It's beautiful and I remember playing there when I was younger.



## Are you interested in learning a **new skill** or gaining a **professional qualification**?

We work with training providers, universities and colleges to offer a wide range of training opportunities including confidence building, construction, health & safety and CSCS card, SIA security, accounting, 3D design, rail engineering, IT, coding and so much more!

Our partners include Ravensbourne University, Greenwich University, QA, Generation UK, Hobs Academy, and Youthbuild.

Sign up to our mailing list to find out more about free training courses.

Email: [employment.training@peabody.org.uk](mailto:employment.training@peabody.org.uk)  
[www.peabody.org.uk](http://www.peabody.org.uk)



## Making Space for Nature

# Volunteer with us

As part of our Making Space for Nature programme, volunteers meet regularly at parks and nature reserves across Thamesmead to help improve green spaces and increase biodiversity.

### Become a volunteer if you want to:

- improve your knowledge of plants and wildlife
- help nurture the natural environment
- meet new people and spend time outdoors
- learn how to use gardening tools
- improve your fitness

To find out more, email: [msfn@peabody.org.uk](mailto:msfn@peabody.org.uk) or scan the QR code below



# Want to improve your digital skills?

Our Digital Champions can offer friendly one-to-one support to help you use digital devices like laptops, mobile phones and tablets.

They can also help you to:

- Send emails and text messages
- Fill in online forms
- Connect your devices to WiFi
- Sign up to forums and webinars
- Online shopping



**Mondays**  
9.30am – 11.30am

The Moorings Sociable Club  
Arnett Close  
Thamesmead  
SE28 8BG

**Tuesdays**  
9.30am – 11.30am

The Nest Community Building and Library  
3 Cygnet Square  
Thamesmead  
SE2 9FA

For more information email [ThamesmeadCommunityTeam@peabody.org.uk](mailto:ThamesmeadCommunityTeam@peabody.org.uk) or call 07815734080



## SIGN UP FOR EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS FOR PARENTS

GAIN THE SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE TO GET THE JOB YOU WANT!

Information and Introduction Session

Location Moorings Social Club, Thamesmead, SE28 8BH  
Date Thursday 20th April Time 10am till 12pm

Childcare and Refreshments

[PARENTING@PARENTPOWER-ED.CO.UK](mailto:PARENTING@PARENTPOWER-ED.CO.UK)

GET A FREE £50 VOUCHER ON COMPLETION OF PROGRAMME!

