

Spring
2015

Sydenham



Your local assembly, your say

*Play an active role in improving Sydenham today
and help shape the Sydenham of tomorrow*

Welcome to the Sydenham Assembly Spring 2015 newsletter. The Assembly is an open community meeting that takes place four times a year. The meetings are your chance to help shape the future of this part of the borough of Lewisham. Anyone who lives, works and learns in Sydenham is invited to attend.

Come along to the Sydenham Centre on 18th March to catch up on all that's happening in your local area.

Next meeting

Wednesday 18th March

7pm-9pm

Sydenham Centre

44a Sydenham Road

SE26 5QF

Buses 75, 194, 202, 450

At the next meeting

- **Local policing**
- **Assembly-funded projects**
- **Council Budget**
- **Transport issues: London Bridge closure and Bakerloo Line extension**
- **Sydenham Arts**
- **Planning issues, including The Greyhound**



A host of family friendly events are to take place at the new Literary Piazza at the Sydenham Community Library in March. As part of Word Fair (5-15 March) a collection of children's authors and storytellers will entertain visitors, with performances from Steve Cole, Ciaran Murtagh and Sydenham festival favourite Randolph Matthews. www.sydenhamarts.co.uk

Your local councillors

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www.lewisham.gov.uk/localassemblies/sydenhamassembly

Sydenham Assembly Fund: How your £12,500 has been spent

At the last assembly meeting, Sydenham residents voted through a series of projects that will improve the ward.

With a £12,500 pot, there are funds available to address some of the key priorities in the area.

This year the Sydenham Assembly has funded the following projects:

- 20 **Street trees** - £4,800
- Music and **stories for under 5's** at the Sydenham Community Library - £1,200
- Station Approach **Street Art Project** - £1,300
- A **Community Association** for residents in the Wells Park Road, area - £700
- Bringing the **Literary Piazza** to life, a series of events outside the Library - £2,000
- Sydenham **activities and entertainment**, including events around the monthly market and at Christmas - £2,500

Sydenham market returns in April



Sydenham market returns this April with a whole host of new stalls full of interesting local produce such as art, jewellery and food.

Could your product be among them?

We're always looking for new sellers to join our market community. Market stalls are a great way of getting instant feedback and talking to your audience. Look out for us on the 2nd Saturday of the month, with entertainment from Sydenham Arts who are putting on an exciting High Street Happenings Programme.



Community clear up

We will be taking to the streets on Saturday 21 March to join the National Clear Up initiative.

As part of the continuous efforts to help ensure the ward is as clean as possible, residents will be removing shop-front stickers and tackling problem areas. Please come and join in the community effort for a couple of hours from 11 am. Volunteers will be meeting at the Sydenham Centre, Sydenham Road.

www.lewisham.gov.uk/localassemblies/sydenhamassembly

Finish line in sight for the Greyhound?

After eight years, could the saga of the Greyhound pub redevelopment finally be nearing a conclusion?

All planning documents are now in place for work to begin on the rebuilding of the Greyhound pub. Last Autumn the Sydenham Assembly agreed to refer the long standing issue to Lewisham's Mayor and Cabinet. The developer has since stated his intention to get back on site. Kath Nicholson, Lewisham's Head of Law, welcomed the progress but stated that "the legal foot would not come off the pedal".

Since then Lewisham officers have been on site to establish the works that need to be done to make the structure safe for the rebuild. Now that the revised plans are



The Greyhound Pub as it looked in 2005

in place, work is due to begin imminently.

The original plan to rebuild by April 2015 looks set to slip, but there is light at the end of the tunnel.

Mayow Park gets an outdoor gym



In Mayow Park an outdoor gym and trim trail equipment have been installed and are ready to use.

The facilities have been made available after a survey of park users found significant support for both projects. Both sets of equipment were installed in February.

The official opening of the Mayow Park outdoor gym and trim trail will take place on Wednesday 25th March at 3-5pm.

Liam Curran to chair Sydenham Assembly

Sydenham Councillor Liam Curran will be the new Chair of the Sydenham Assembly this year.



"I am looking forward to hearing fresh views and ideas from Sydenham residents at our Assembly meetings and hope that as many people as possible come along to hear about what's going on and what's new in the area" he said.

Liam also called on residents to ensure they are able to vote by registering individually.

To make sure your details are correct visit: www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

Alan Johnson to star at Word Fair

Sydenham Arts.

This spring Sydenham will host Sydenham Arts Word Fair – the very first venture from

Sydenham Arts, previously known as Sydenham Arts Festival.

Taking place on 5-15 March, it will be a celebration of books, reading, spoken word and poetry in the heart of South East London.

Highlights include Alan Johnson MP performing a reading of his acclaimed memoirs, while Gale Burns will host an evening with Brian Patten and John Agard.



www.sydenhamarts.co.uk

Flushed with success

New public toilet for Station Approach



The final part of the high street regeneration programme is taking shape.

The new public toilet is now being installed in Station Approach, with work underway for the water and electric connections.

New art publication

South Circular, a new free publication compiled by Sydenham Arts, is packed full of insights to help you to 'Discover the Arts on your Doorstep'. It provides a fresh platform for local organisations, businesses and community groups to share the wealth of artistic excellence. It is available now! For stories or listings contact southcircular@sydenhamarts.co.uk.



Easter egg trail

Calling all children under 10 years of age. Wear your Easter bonnet on Saturday 4th April from 2-3pm and collect your mini egg from



shops along the high street.

Come along and make your Easter bonnet at Here For Good – 17 Sydenham Road on Easter Saturday 4th April from 12 noon to 2pm.

We will then hold a parade along the high street where traders with an Easter poster will hand out mini eggs to those wearing Easter bonnets.