



Lewisham

Sydenham








Winter
2017

www.lewisham.gov.uk/localassemblies/sydenhamassembly

ASSEMBLY MEETING INFORMATION

The Assembly is an open community meeting that takes place four times a year. Anyone who lives, works or learns in Sydenham is invited to attend. Help shape our future!

ON THE AGENDA

-  Southern Rail Service changes
-  Sydenham Crown Post Office update
-  Vote for the projects you want to see funded in 2018 (details on right)
-  Progress on your high street
-  Empty shops update
-  Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) update PC Shaun Rodway
-  Bell Green Gasholders update

Next Meeting

Sat 2nd December
11am - 1pm

The Sydenham Library
210 Sydenham Road SE26 5SE
Buses 202, 194, 450

Next meeting 14 March 2018
at The Sydenham Centre
7pm

YOUR COUNCILLORS

Cllr Chris Best
cllr_chris.best@
lewisham.gov.uk
020 8676 9516

Cllr Liam Curran
cllr_liam.curran@
lewisham.gov.uk
020 8314 6937

Cllr Rachel Onikosi
cllr_rachel.onikosi@
lewisham.gov.uk
020 8314 9957

If you have any questions you can get in touch:
email laura.luckhurst@lewisham.gov.uk



Christmas in Sydenham

Sydenham assembly fund £12,500

At the last meeting we agreed on our local priorities for funding. At this meeting we will hear from each of the shortlisted applicants and we will then vote on each project we want to fund.

Projects

- Sydenham Community Library** Rhyme Time for Under 5s - £1,410
Children's Crafts £380 and Adults Crafts - £740
- TNG** (The New Generation Youth and Community Centre)
Intergenerational project with the Over 50s Film Project - £1,540
- The Greener Homecroft Project** Growing Greener - £600
- SEE3** High Street Happenings - £2,000
- Spontaneous Productions** Eleanor Marx Community Play - £2,000
- Voluntary Services Lewisham** Christmas Project - £2,000
- Carers Lewisham** Carers keep well - £1,830

Festivities at Sydenham Library 2nd December

11-1pm Assembly meeting (details left)

Where we are delighted to have Ellie Reeves MP joining us

1-2pm enjoy mince pies, tea, coffee & meet your MP

**2 & 3pm Performances of
The Snowman and the Fairy** (details overleaf)

at Library Piazza

3.30pm Sydenham Singers for carols
4pm lighting of the Christmas Tree



9th December Festivities

**1, 2, 3 & 4pm Performances of
The Snowman and the Fairy**

The Sydenham Centre (details overleaf)

4:30pm Lighting of the Christmas tree - meet Santa, his reindeer and their special friends
4:45pm Carol singing with Churches Together
Queensthorpe Square (opposite the Post Office)

11-3:30pm Christmas Market
12-3:30pm Santa's Grotto £3
Sydenham Library

Thanks to Tesco Express for sponsoring and Angle's Flowers for purchasing the glorious Christmas Tree.





The Snowman and the Christmas Fairy

by Jonathan Kaufman Original songs and music by Deborah Garvey

Don't miss this fabulous FREE family show for children aged 7 and under from the *Spontaneous Productions* that brought you *Jack and the Beanstalk* and *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* in previous years - featuring Serael Asphall as the Christmas Fairy and Hjalmar Norden as the Snowman.

When a proud Christmas Fairy loses her place on top of the Christmas tree, her adventures are just beginning. But an encounter with a lonely snowman changes everything ... Can she find a new home and the snowman make a



new friend? Join us in this magical story of learning and friendship.

Generously sponsored and supported by SEE3, Property World and Woodfall Opticians.

Saturday 2nd December

2pm & 3pm Sydenham Community Library

Saturday 9th December

1pm, 2pm, 3pm & 4pm

the Sydenham Centre

show lasts approximately 20 minutes

Seating is limited to 100 people per show so get there early to get the best seats!

www.spontaneousproductions.co.uk

Some of the projects funded by Sydenham Assembly in 2016

Sydenham Lens Project

Rachel D'Cruze, Managing Director

As a registered Charity, *Sydenham Arts* is a community arts organisation that has year round events.

In February & March of this year, we were thrilled to be able to run a photography festival, *Sydenham Lens*. This was a range of events, exhibitions, workshops and film screenings, celebrating the people of Sydenham through photography.

The benefit of using this powerful visual medium is that it removes barriers, which traditionally prevent people getting involved in cultural activities, such as ability/willingness to read, cultural and language or social segregation to name a few.

We were keen to engage with the most isolated parts of the local community, whether low-income, elderly and harder to reach young adults. *Sydenham Lens* sought to promote learning and new skills, actively promoting a positive attitude and inclusive message across all of Sydenham residents.

Workshops took place all over Sydenham and Forest Hill.

The project benefitted from a range of grants and sponsorship including £1,000 Sydenham Assembly Grant.



Some of the amazing photos taken by participants of Sydenham Lens.

Sydenham Garden

Thanks to the Assembly grant funding we were awarded last year, we were able to improve access to our Resource Centre for the 300 people a week who use it. We replaced a gravel path with a more solid material. Along with that vital work, the funds allowed us to run 10 extra gardening sessions for local residents. This helped improve the woodland area along the front path, and create a new gravel garden in front of the centre.

One participant said: "I found the sessions relaxing, enjoyable (especially eating together!) and informative. I hope we've managed to create something beautiful for people to appreciate."

We are really grateful to the many people who came together to make this project possible.





Sydenham Community Library

Adults' craft class

Sydenham Assembly kindly granted us £1,800 to run a weekly afternoon craft group for adults from February to November. Clem, from the Bellingham crafts group organised and led the group from February to July. Her expertise meant that she could offer a wide range of crafts, including tile and glass painting, bead work, textiles and decoupage, and the group designed an array of items such as painted fabric shopping bags, jewellery and gift boxes. We advertised in local shops, on social media, and at Sydenham Garden. In September, Chris, Claire, Pauline and Heather, from the popup shop at the Green Man put together a varied programme that included jewellery making, painting in watercolour and acrylics, fabric decorations, bunting, and card making, just in time for Christmas. The classes were well attended and we occasionally had to turn people away. The group attracted interest from other library users who sometimes joined in when spaces were available. Crafters bonded whilst enjoying an activity that was creative, sociable and relaxing, taking advantage of having the space and materials available to make something special. One member called the group "the highlight of my week"



Rhyme time for under - 5s

Sydenham Assembly contributed the last 30% to allow *Rhyme Time for Under-fives* to continue through the school holidays. On Thursday mornings the library welcomed up to 23 adults, with their toddlers, for a session of singing, percussion, rhyme and songs. Alison, who led the group, encouraged parents and carers to bring songs from their cultures to teach them to other parents and children. Some activities were educational, like counting and rhyme. All of the activities were fun for the kids and carers alike. Mums, dads and grandparents attended. It allowed parents new to the area to make friends, and gain new ideas for creative and educational play. Many stayed to socialise after the group and we hope that it will continue to bring parents and children together in the future.



Christmas fun!

SEE3 have been beavering away to compile their 6th Christmas Calendar to highlight seasonal events in Sydenham and Forest Hill. Online version available on www.see3.com



Friday, 1st December Kelvin Grove Primary School Christmas Fair 3:30-5:30pm Come enjoy activities, games, crafts, and stalls. Minced pies, mulled wine, Santa and much more!

Saturday, 2nd December Tree dressing in the orchard 10 - 12:30pm Mayow park

Saturday & Sunday 2nd & 3rd December Christmas market at Grow Mayow community Garden Sat 11 - 6, Sun 11-4pm Original handmade gifts, festive food and drinks free entry! For more info go to growmayow.org

Saturday & Sunday 2nd & 3rd December Just So Christmas Gift Fair Sat 11 - 6, Sun 11-4pm Here For Good, 17 Sydenham Road SE26 5EX Unique, handmade and local goodies such as textiles, jewellery and cards. For more info go to justsopopups.co.uk

Thursday, 7th December Celtic Christmas Concert 7:30pm at St Christopher's Hospice with Mick Sands and friends £10, tickets includes interval canapés and wine - for more info go to www.stchristophers.org.uk

Friday, 8th December St Bartholomew's Primary School Christmas Fair 3:30-5:30pm Enjoy Christmas fun and activities; grotto, stalls and games, mulled wine, mince pies. For more info go to friendsofstbarts@gmail.com

Saturday, 9th December Sydenham Library Christmas Fair, 11am - 3.30pm Santa's grotto from noon £3 per child. Stalls, raffle, face painting, refreshments. To book a stall please call 020 8778 1753 Stalls cost £5/£10

Saturday, 9th December Ignition Christmas Market 11 - 2.30pm, The Sydenham Centre! Buy beer by the case and Gift Packs. Enjoy mulled beer cocktails and mince pies. To pre-order at hello@ignition.beer

Monday, 11 December Christmas Film Quiz 7pm at the Dolphin, 121 Sydenham Rd, SE26 5HB Tickets £3. 3-5 people per team Contact Dolphin to book table at 020 8314 3553 www.sydenhamfilmclub.org



DIARY DATES

November 30th Sydenham Film Club *Hell or High Water* (David Mackenzie, USA, 2016, 102mins) **7:30pm**, at The Sydenham Centre. Tickets: £5 Nominated for 4 Oscars this modern Western is far from making heroes out of its characters. An important American indie film.

3rd December Sunday Social Record Fair 11 – 6.00pm Sugahill Cafe 254 Kirkdale SE26 4NL. Fully licensed with DJs playing funk, jazz, soul, reggae 020 8659 5828.

7th December Sydenham SNT Ward Panel public meeting 7pm Come join us at The Grove Centre, Jews Walk.

Every Friday Movies for the over 50s 1 – 3.30pm TNG Youth & Community Centre 111 Wells Park Road, SE26 6AD. Enjoy a film, meet new people, have tea and cake, all for free! Call 020 8314 3553 for programme over the Festive period.

Every Thursday Over 55s Yoga 1 – 2pm. No previous experience necessary. All equipment provided. Flexible clothing. Ideal for the over 55s or for people wanting a more gentle and slower practice, £8 drop-in. The Sydenham Centre, rosiegrundy@gmail.com 07939 914 450

Yamille Herrera Salsa teacher at Sydenham Centre Tuesdays at 7:30 – 9:30pm £6/1hr or £8/2hrs

Originally from Medellin Colombia, a city known for its drug cartels, Yamille speaks warmly of this much reformed location for being the sunshine city of eternal Spring.

She met and fell in love with her now husband, Vaughn, in Colombia, when he was in an English exchange programme for mental health practitioners. He was one of her dance students.

Due to Home Office requirements to enter the UK, although they were married, they had to live in different countries for a while before they could both live here in London.

With an adult daughter in Colombia and a 2 year old son here, Yamille straddles two continents and has successfully rebuilt her career among London's salsa community. She offers classes to all ages and abilities and participates in local festivals. Ask her why are you living in South London? she'll answer "because my husband is here and I love it!"

50 years of St Christopher's Hospice!

The world's first modern hospice – St Christopher's – was founded in Sydenham by pioneer Dame Cicely Saunders in 1967. Dame Cicely's vision to improve care for the dying and the bereaved has now spread around the globe. There is still much to be done but we are very proud of all that has been achieved in the last 50 years. Today, we support nearly 6,500 patients and families a year, from across the boroughs of Bromley, Croydon, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark.

We have held many events to mark this momentous year. At the start of 2017, we took two magnificent floats to London's New Year's Day parade. Our prize-winning floats were lovingly created by patients, staff, supporters and volunteers. In June, over fifty cyclists rode from Sydenham to Paris. Four days and 300 miles later, the riders cycled triumphantly under the Eiffel Tower, having jointly raised over £100,000. Later that month, Lambeth Palace gardens agreed to take part in our regular summer Open Gardens Festival. For one day only, visitors were able to wander around one of the oldest and largest private gardens in London, and enjoy an afternoon tea and live music. In July, St Christopher's held a formal service of celebration and thanksgiving in Southwark Cathedral. The event closed with 50,000 petals falling from the ceiling to remember all those that St Christopher's has cared for over the last 50 years.

We sincerely thank the people and organisations of Lewisham for all the support that they have given the hospice over the last fifty years; long may it continue.

Safer Neighbourhood Team

Sydenham SNT have recently arrested a male wanted for burglary. Historically this is a peak time for burglaries as homes are full of new gadgets and presents for

friends and families. We need to do all that we can to prevent this. Please follow these simple tips on www.met.police.uk/crime-prevention/residential-burglary

Local listing of Bell Green gasholders

Chris Best Councillor for Sydenham Ward and Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing & Older People

I am delighted that following the petition from *Sydenham Society* and *These Streets Belong to Us*, the Council has approved the Local Listing of Bell Green gasholders. It shows what can be done with an extensive campaign! At the recent Mayor and Cabinet meeting, the Chair of the Sydenham Society spoke to support the architectural merit of the listing and I was proud to contribute as Lewisham's Heritage Champion.

The two surviving Victorian Bell Green gasholders were designed by the distinguished gas engineer Charles Gandon and built in 1882 and 1890. It is thought that George Livesey was involved in the design of these as they possess the "flying lift" he pioneered.

The growth of the gas industry in the 19th century mirrored the improving standard of living in urban areas and the fast-rising populations. The gasholders symbolised both demographic and technological progress. The location of the



gasworks not only led to the development of Lower Sydenham, with its terraced housing replacing the area's fields and watercress meadows, but also led to the expansion of the railway. In 1857 the Mid Kent Line opened their station at Beckenham Junction and in 1878 a connection was added a quarter of a mile north of Bell Green serving the Crystal Palace & District Gas Company.

Representing a rich industrial heritage, it is fantastic news they are now listed, recognising their historic importance and giving them some level of protection.

natasabartonprints.blogspot.co.uk