

Welcome to the latest edition of Park Life, and best wishes for the new year.

Since I last wrote to you, in May 2011, I have been approached by a number of residents who want to know what Clapham Park Project will do now that its government funding has ended. We are continuing our work by supporting those members of our community who have the greatest needs. Whilst the Clapham Park neighbourhood has improved over the last decade, residents tell us that they still have concerns. They raise issues such as young people and their prospects, levels of crime, support for the elderly and, more generally, a desire to get to know their neighbours better. Clapham Park Project *Charity* is working to address these issues. We may no longer have guaranteed public funding, but we are seeking to find new sources of income to support our projects and activities.

The organisation has been through a dramatic cost cutting exercise and now employs four members of staff who are assisted by a small pool of volunteers.

I do hope we can count on your support.

Donna C. Henry, MBE, Chair,
Clapham Park Project *Charity*



My personal highlight of 2011 was to have been presented my MBE by HRH Prince of Wales.

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Time Loving Care launch

Clapham Park Project *Charity* is launching a brand new project called Time Loving Care (TLC) to help improve the well being of vulnerable adults.

Practical support will be offered to residents with disabilities or long-term health conditions such as assistance before, during and after a stay in hospital. For example, whilst recuperating at home from an illness, transportation to and from hospital appointments could be arranged, or topping up of electric/gas meter keys or mobile phones.

The project will be staffed by a part-time paid worker, who will be supported by volunteers, and funded by the Lambeth Community Fund - Communities for Health, managed by London Community Foundation.

If you would like to be involved or for more information contact Carol Lawrence on 020 8678 5940 or email clawrence@claphampark.org.uk

Hello to Karen and welcome back Gordon!

Two local residents, Karen Chillman and Gordon Wedderburn, were appointed as Trustees to the Clapham Park Project *Charity* in September 2011.

Karen Chillman (right) has lived in the area for over 30 years. She has over 25 years' experience working in community development and is passionate about making Clapham Park a better place to live.

Karen's recent local volunteering roles have been on the steering group of the Clapham Park Neighbourhood Forum and, from 2008 to 2011, she was Chair of the Friends of Agnes Riley Gardens. Other volunteering at present includes the London Ambassador Programme as a Volunteer Manager and helping young people learn to knit.

Gordon Wedderburn (far right) has lived in Clapham Park since 2002, having moved to London from Jamaica where he grew up.

When CPP held its Board elections in 2008, Gordon was keen to put himself forward because he believed in the project. He had already benefited from a number of community initiatives and wanted to help make a difference.

After completing a full term on the Board, Gordon applied for a second term and was successfully re-elected in September 2011.

In addition to being a resident Board member, Gordon is also on Generation Radio's Management Committee and hosts a 'Jazz Moods' programme every Monday.

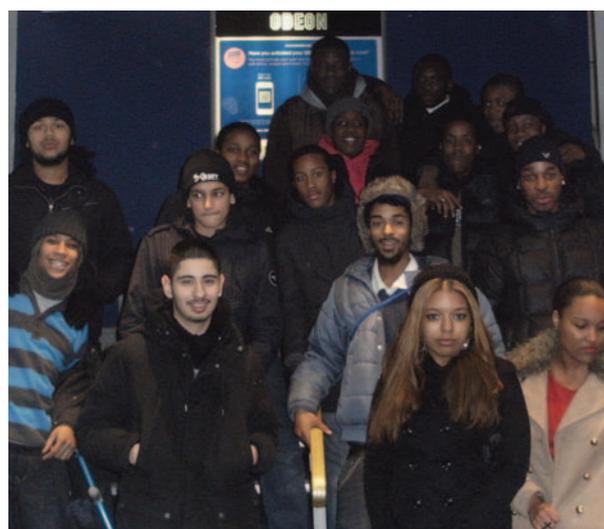


TRUSTEES WANTED

Clapham Park Project *Charity* is seeking a new Trustee to join its 12-strong Board.

- Are you passionate about your community and want to make a contribution?
- Would you like to be involved in making important decisions about your community?
- Would you like to attend a meeting to discuss this opportunity?

For more information contact us today on 020 8678 5940



Participants also mixed fun with learning by making a video diary about issues that affect them such as carrying knives, banning cannabis and the potential influence of music. 28 young people aged 15 – 19 attended the five sessions, which ended with a trip to the cinema.

Young people look to the future

The Clapham Park Youth Forum held five sessions on the theme 'Looking to the Future', supported by the Clapham Park Neighbourhood Forum.

Attendees were encouraged to discuss issues relating to how they see their future and how they can play a more active part in the community and in society in general.

The young people discussed routes to further education and their worries about fees and debt in one session, and there were opportunities to participate in a workshop to design projects to help homeless people and another to invent a new form of social media.

Following a lively discussion on the use of social media, the Clapham Park Youth Forum now have their own Facebook page and Twitter account. They are also looking forward to a visit to the Google offices sometime in the near future.

For more information contact Ricky on 07944 586 528.

Clapham Park Neighbourhood Forum host Open Space event



Residents attend a meeting to discuss issues that matter to the community.

The Clapham Park Neighbourhood Forum organised an Open Space event 'Let's Make Our Neighbourhood Better' in May 2011, attended by around 60 local people.

The purpose of the event was to bring residents together to discuss issues that people care about and to help shape the future of our local area.

The top three issues identified were youth, community/neighbours and the elderly. Discussions then turned to what we can do to address these issues and as a result it was decided that we would support the following: an intergenerational project between Knight's Youth Centre and the Clapham Park Over 50s Social Club, sessions with Clapham Park Youth Forum and help residents to organise a 'Big Lunch' event.

Changing attitudes between generations

Following the success of the 'Reach In & Out' (RIO) project, we are organising sessions with the Clapham Park Over 50s Social Club and Knights Youth Centre to help change attitudes between the generations.

There is a lot of misunderstanding about young people's behaviour amongst the elderly, especially around crime and anti-social behaviours, so the sessions will focus on talking through these issues.

Participants have already been recruited, and are looking forward to the first meeting.

'The Big Lunch'

'The Big Lunch' idea came out of the Open Space event held in May 2011 and addresses one of the top three issues identified – residents' desire to get to know their neighbours and neighbourhoods better.

Following an approach by a resident, we decided to focus on an area in the south of Clapham Park, comprising of 199 flats (four blocks) to encourage greater participation. In September, we leafleted the area, and followed this up by knocking on doors in the evenings. We spoke to 49 residents and recruited 18 volunteers to help with planning the event, cooking, organising games and activities for children and young people, and help with decorating the venue and serving food.

The resident Planning Group met in October and decided to hold 'The Big Lunch' event in late March 2012, to coincide with the warmer weather and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

The large hall at New Park Road Baptist Church has been booked for Saturday 24 March 2012. Further planning meetings will take place over the coming weeks.

If you live in Angus, Cotton, Crossman or Currie House, and would like to be involved, please contact us on 020 8678 5900.



Resident Planning Group meeting to discuss 'The Big Lunch'.

For more information about the Neighbourhood Forum, the Inter-generational Project or The Big Lunch, contact Ching Wah Wong on 020 8678 5922 or email cwong@claphampark.org.uk

IntoUniversity moves into Clapham Park

An award winning educational charity has set up a centre in Clapham Park and started working with young people in the area.

IntoUniversity runs an innovative programme of support for young people in London and Nottingham, from underprivileged backgrounds, to help them attain either a university place or another chosen aspiration.



A Kings College graduation ceremony for children from Richard Atkins Primary School.

During the first week of December 2011 a Primary FOCUS Week was held with Ms Fonseca's Year 6 class from Richard Atkins Primary School. The children's achievements were celebrated in a graduation ceremony at Kings College, London. Parents and family members attended the ceremony along with Head Teacher Julie Roberts. Ms Fonseca said: "The IntoUniversity team were excellent, very well organised and resourced. Working with the team was a real pleasure."

For more information email ben.kahn@intouniversity.org

ROOMS FOR HIRE

Clapham Park Project *Charity* has a range of rooms available for hire at very competitive rates. We can also offer equipment hire (laptops, projectors, flip charts etc.)



For more information contact Adriano Jesus on 020 8678 5900 or ajesus@claphampark.org.uk

EVENTS CALENDAR: February & March 2012

Every Monday 2.30 – 4.00pm	Clapham Park Timebank Tea 'n Chat at 1-4 Brixton Hill Place, London SW2 1HJ
Every Tuesday 11.00am – 12.30pm	Clapham Park Over 50s Social Club Coffee Morning at Clapham Park Resource Centre, Corner of Headlam Rd and Kings Avenue, SW4
Tuesday 28 February 2012 Tuesday 27 March 2012 7.00 – 9.00pm	Clapham Park Tenants & Residents Association at Clapham Park Resource Centre, Corner of Headlam Rd and Kings Avenue, SW4 8HF
Last Thursday of every month 1.00 – 4.00pm	Clapham Park Over 50s Social Club Luncheon Club at Clapham Park Resource Centre, Corner of Headlam Rd & Kings Avenue, SW4 8HF
Tuesday 20 March 2012 6.30pm	Clapham Park Project <i>Charity</i> Board Meeting at 1-4 Brixton Hill Place, London SW2 1HJ
Saturday 24 March 2012 (Time to be confirmed)	The Big Lunch at New Park Road Baptist Church



Clapham Park Project *Charity*
1-4 Brixton Hill Place
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