

ParkLife

Clapham Park Project Newsletter

Spring
2023



Clapham Park Project



Welcome to Park Life, CPP's quarterly newsletter

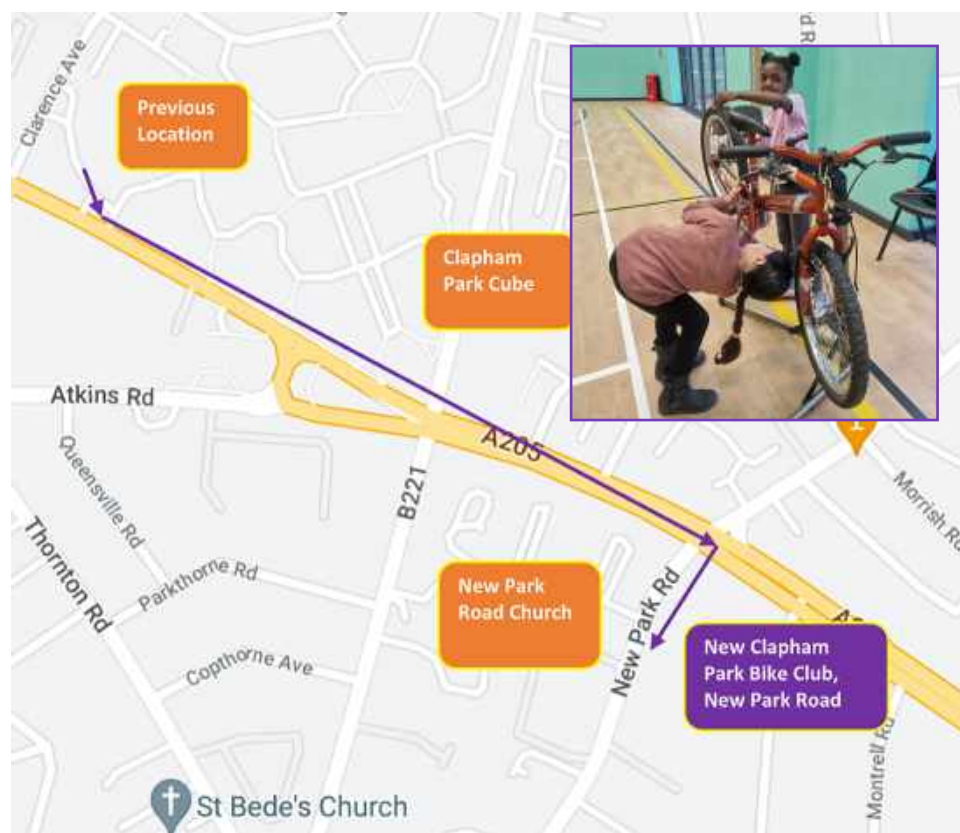
I hope that by the time this latest edition of our newsletter lands on your doorstep we will be seeing and feeling all the signs of Spring. I know that the last few months, especially during the very cold weather, will have been difficult for many residents of our area. We have tried to help, particularly through supporting the Council's network of Warm Hubs with our staff working at the one provided in the Cube on Thursday lunchtimes.

I'm pleased Metropolitan Thames Valley have been able to provide a new home for our popular Bikes Club. Its old location is now part of the construction site near the former Poynders Parade. You can read more about the Club in the article on this page.

Diana Morris

Chair, Clapham Park Project

The Clapham Park Project's Bike Club is on the move



The Bike Club is moving to a brand new home on New Park Road. This new location will provide better facilities. The new site will be open from April 2023. We will be having a formal celebratory launch soon. Keep an eye out for more information.

To find out more about the project and how to get involved visit: www.claphampark.org.uk



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Champion

Community Chest

Two more excellent projects have been funded by the Community Chest. These have been delivered by two local residents and demonstrate the passion and commitment that they have to work with adults and children in Clapham Park.

Esol teaching project



Tess Billyeald, a well-travelled and experienced Teacher who has taught in several countries, has delivered this project. It focused on families and their

children who had recently settled in Clapham Park and who speak no English at all. They learnt writing, listening and reading skills in English. There were also volunteers on hand to help with job applications, CV's and improving their social interaction skills.

Create with me workshop

Tanisha Coley, who has years of experience working with young children in play activities, ran this project over half term. The children were engaged in making Koi Carp out of polymer clay and a Koi Carp Pond. The participating children were aged 7-14, and the results of their model making were very impressive.

If you are interested in attending future sessions, you can

contact Tanisha on 07738 949 819 or email trulycutsie@gmail.com

So if you have a passion for community activities that directly benefit local residents, do apply to our Community Chest on our website claphampark.org.uk or contact pjoseph@claphampark.org.uk for further information.



Money worries?
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Clapham Park Project
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Open weekdays 10:00-17:00
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www.debtfree.london

Council Tax
Rent Arrears
Credit Card
Utility Bill
Benefit Overpayments

We are a Lambeth warm space

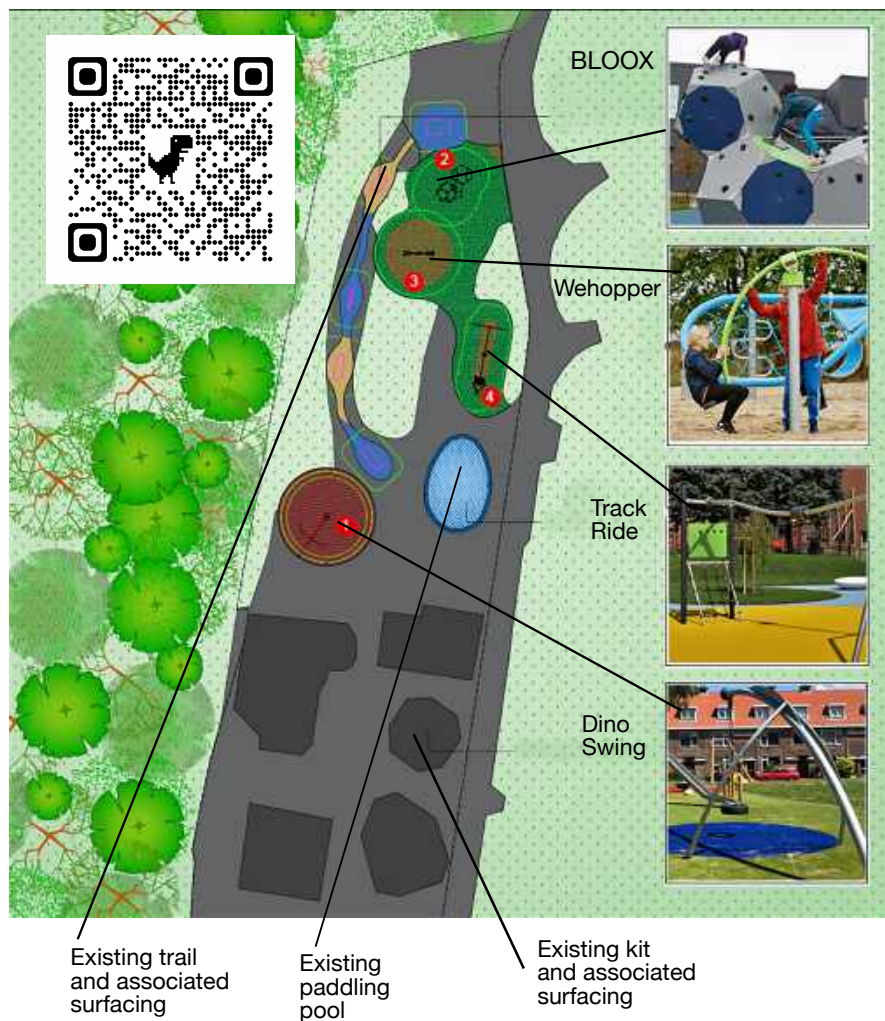
Here for you.

Warm spaces in your local area:
Thursdays at 1pm at the Clapham Park Cube, 116 Kings Avenue SW4 8EP
Lunch provided by Mamas Kitchen and volunteers. Other support services such as energy advice and one-to-one digital support are available.
Fridays at 11am to 1pm at the Weir Link, 33 Weir

Road SW12 0NU
Light refreshments.
Visit lambeth.gov.uk/warm-spaces to find out about other warm spaces in Lambeth or Click on the QR Code



New investment in Agnes Riley Gardens: options



As a result of the redevelopment of the Clapham Park Estate, the Council has some extra resources to spend in Agnes Riley Gardens. The Council is considering a variety of options including improvements to the playground to replace outworn equipment. This will include equipment aimed at older age groups and to make some provision for disabled children. See Illustrations of one of the possible schemes on the left.

The FOARG are going to be working with the Council to consult with users of the park on what their preferences are. They undertook a similar exercise a couple of years ago resulting in the installation of the new stand-up seesaw in the playground. You can give your views by responding to the questionnaire on the FOARG website via agnesrileygardens.org.uk or use the QR code.

The future of the paddling pool is also under consideration. Keep looking at the FOARG website for updates on any new proposals and further consultation.

Why don't you help look after our local pond?

Our local pond is in Agnes Riley Gardens. It's a popular feature with children. They can play on the boulders - avoiding falling into the water! - and explore the wildlife. The pond has been the focus of some activity over the last year. The Mayor of London's Grow Back Greener fund has enabled the repair of the water delivery system using collected rainwater from the roof of the nearby One O'Clock Club. The fund has also supported some sessions with local children teaching them about the kinds of wildlife that exist in ponds and helping them to identify creatures such as frogs and newts for themselves. The Council and the Friends of Agnes Riley Gardens want to make sure that the pond continues to be a resource both for wildlife and for natural play. Could you help by becoming a Pond Champion? The Friends are looking for 1-3 practically minded volunteers for our amazing pond. The Pond Champion will lead on pond maintenance and clearance, rescuing froglets, helping to plan and design improvements, and liaising with the Council. The Council can give lots of support - enthusiasm is more important than expertise! For more information contact friends@agnesrileygardens.org.uk



The Clapham Park Neighbourhood Forum

The Clapham Park Neighbourhood Forum was set up to provide a constructive forum for residents to voice their views on any specific problems or issues affecting their local neighbourhood, to put forward ideas for community improvement and to support local volunteer activity. We are looking for new Committee members to help us develop and shape the Forum. We also want you to tell us what topics you think the Forum ought to be discussing and what activities it ought to get involved in. Contact Ching Wah on 07958 337 305 or email her on cwong@claphampark.org.uk for further information.

**CLAPHAM PARK
NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM**
for the Thornton & Clapham Park community

Funded by & Part of



New funding for the Bikes Project

CPP's Bikes Project has secured a further two years' funding through a contract with Lambeth Council's Early Intervention and Prevention Services. CPP's successful bid was one of nine partners in the Clapham Consortium. All of the partners will be delivering activities for young people in the Clapham neighbourhood. Our thanks go to Lambeth Council for the contract. More information on the Clapham Consortium's activities will be included in the next edition of Park Life.

Tribute to Thaddeus Emenyeonu from his family



It's been 41 years since my dad moved to SW2 and 41 years that he has been putting down roots in this community. My dad Thaddeus was born in Eziala, which is in the Imo State district of Nigeria. The 7th of 10 children he moved to the UK in 1964. He lived in Hammersmith, Westminster and Brixton before deciding to make Clapham Park his last stop and home.

When my dad caught wind of the regeneration of our local area, he immediately wanted to get involved. He was newly retired but full of life and loved the vision that had been cultivated behind the "Clapham Park Project".

He was already helping at the crossing for Richard's Atkins as the lollipop man, so picking up extra activities to give back to the area that he had grown to love became more of a passion project than extra work.

My father was a man of the people. I always wondered how he found time for family and the various networks that he was a part of but somehow he did... because he cared.

He was passionate about his community,

often first on the ground to lend a helping hand, counsel or support people who were going through difficulty, needed help back on their feet or just a sounding board.

His dependable nature and genuine affinity for people distinguished him amongst his peers and entrusted him with the task of being a Godparent to over 20 in the UK and Nigeria.

Mr Enjoyment or Minister of Enjoyment. That's a phrase that comes to mind when thinking of my dad. I often joked that my love for parties and enjoyment came from him because he started me off young. A weekend outing was the norm for us, regularly carrying me as his plus 1 to HIT THEE TOWN. Even in the house, he loved music and would sporadically start playing Victor Uwaifo; dancing his dance, with his infamous two-step and shoulder shimmy. He was always going to enjoy himself and he was always going to laugh. That is something everyone that encountered him, will have recognised - His humour. He couldn't help but crack a joke or find the humour in even the most impossible situations. His weather was joy and he carried it well.

Family was key. Everything was about the family and he was ALWAYS available and ever present to his wife and children.

As gregarious as he was, my dad was a deeply private person; he didn't share much with many and kept a lot to himself. To many looking in, his private nature could be misinterpreted as pride, but the more you studied him the more you realised this was a display of his benevolence for others - he did not want to burden others or let his adversity become their pain.

Dad, We all miss you so much. You were full of faith to the end. You fought the good fight and you finished the race. Your absence has left a hole that can never be filled but knowing that you are resting brings comfort.

Thank you for being for us and with us. You have left a legacy of adoration in the hearts of everyone that was blessed to know.

Rest well.

Save the Dates

CLAPHAM PARK COMMUNITY FUN DAY
Saturday 5th August 2023 1:30PM TO 5PM
Look out for more details on our website.

CLAPHAM PARK WARD NEIGHBOURHOOD PANEL MEETING
Thursday 27th April 2023 at the Cube Community Centre, 116 Kings Avenue. All welcome,
6:30pm -7pm Police surgery
7pm - 8:30pm - Panel meeting

ST THOMAS & ST STEPHENS YOUTH NIGHTS - FREE ENTRY
Tuesdays at the Cube Community Centre, 116 Kings Avenue, SW4 8EP. All welcome.
Younger Youth Night School Years 6 - 8 , 5:30pm - 6:45pm
Older Youth Night School Years 9 - 13 , 7pm - 8.30pm
Table tennis, football, pool, Nintendo Switch, arts & crafts and more! It is a chance to make new friends and develop your gift. To register to attend: stwss.org.uk/register

LEARN HOW TO REPAIR/ BUILD A BIKE - FREE
Children & Young People (8-16 years of age)
Saturdays 11am to 1pm and 2pm to 4pm
At Clapham Park Cube Community Centre, 116 Kings Avenue SW4 8EP

Children and young people are taught basic bike building and maintenance skills. Each participant will learn to build/repair their own bike or one of our second-hand ones which they can then take away. No costs are involved.

Booking essential. Call Ching Wah on 07958337305 or email cwong@claphampark.org.uk