

# ParkLife

Clapham Park Project Newsletter Winter 2022



## Welcome to Park Life, CPP's quarterly newsletter

I hope you enjoy the contents of our Winter newsletter looking back, perhaps on a chilly evening, to the long warm summer days when Clapham Park residents attended their Fun Day and went on trips to the seaside.

We reflect too on a successful fair in Agnes Riley Gardens organised by the Friends of the park but supported by CPP. We, of course, continue to provide grants to local groups and to run our successful Bikes Project.

Have a look at what's going to be happening in the run up to the Christmas holidays on the back page. I look forward to meeting residents at one of those events.

*Diana Morris  
Chair, Clapham Park Project*

## Summer fun



The Clapham Park Community Fun Day launched on a bright sunny day at the end of July after a two year gap due to the pandemic. Clapham Park Project worked with a group of local residents and then, guided by what they wanted to see, supported Metropolitan Thames Valley Housing and Countryside Partnerships to deliver a fantastic day enjoyed by many residents of Clapham Park and neighbouring areas.

Local residents showcased their talents with the children's carnival and African drumming. Partner organisations provided information about their services and we were treated to a performance by the brilliant Brixton Chamber Orchestra and a visit from the Mayor of Lambeth. Many people were involved in organising the event and we want to thank them for their energy and commitment.



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# Autumn Fair – thank you to all the Volunteers



On a crisp sunny October Saturday, the Friends of Agnes Riley Gardens (a group of local volunteers) held an Autumn Fair at the park. There was a generous turnout of people including lots of families with children of all ages. They enjoyed the football penalty shoot-out, sports provided by Erin of Lambeth Buzzers, a bouncy castle, face painting and a children’s art competition. Plenty of cake was bought and consumed courtesy of fantastic donations from volunteers. The Friends also sold magnificent vegetables which they had grown in the Community Garden in the Park. All this took place against the backdrop of great music from Gordon of GW Jazz.

## Rainwater Project

The Friends have also been working with Lambeth Council on a Rainwater project funded by the Mayor of London’s Grow Back Greener fund. Just recently, a family learning group and students from Harris Academy helped with the planting and found out more about amphibians.



## Call for Volunteers

If you are interested in helping to improve Agnes Riley Gardens, they are looking for more volunteers. You don’t have to be green-fingered. Things you could get involved with include maintaining and helping to keep the paddling pool open during the summer, join/coordinate volunteers to look after the nature pond, help with consultations and maintaining the Friends’ profile on social media to name but a few. Contact by emailing [friends@agnesrileygardens.org.uk](mailto:friends@agnesrileygardens.org.uk)

## Bike Building Sessions

*Saturdays 11am to 1pm  
and 2pm to 4pm  
Venue: 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. There is a £10 returnable deposit. Book with Ching Wah on 07958337305 or email [cwong@claphampark.org.uk](mailto:cwong@claphampark.org.uk)



# Community Chest



This year 2022 has been the most successful for the development of Projects and Community Activities, funded by CPP's Community Chest.

We have funded Community Gardening, IT Training, Pilates Classes and Arts and Crafts Projects. These have been essential to the mental health and well-being of those who engaged and participated in

these activities. Having had such a long period of isolation due to the Covid pandemic, It has been very encouraging for the Trustees and Staff here at Clapham Park Project to be able to start working together and engaging with the local community, such as at the Fun Day in July.

We look forward to many more applications to the Community

Chest to continue our work.

To apply please go to our website [www.claphampark.org.uk](http://www.claphampark.org.uk) where you will find application form/criteria to apply/conditions of grant aid, and a map of our catchment area. Or contact

*Peter Joseph*  
[pjoseph@claphampark.org.uk](mailto:pjoseph@claphampark.org.uk)  
for more information.

## Clapham Park Over 50s Social Club

The Over 50s group was able to go on two seaside trips this summer. Thirty two people enjoyed the delights of Southend, with the world's longest pleasure pier, courtesy of part funding from Metropolitan Thames Valley Housing Association.

Another 14 people went to Hastings thanks to funds provided by the Over 50s Social Club. It has been difficult returning to the regular weekly Coffee Mornings due to some of the more vulnerable elderly people still isolating and

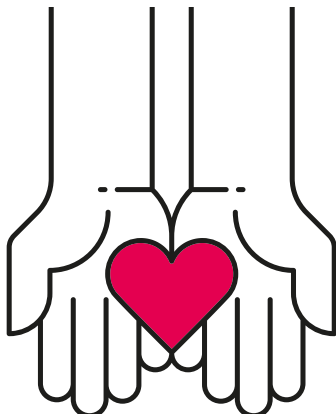
concerns about meeting in a large group.

The group is now growing in strength. Anyone over 50 is welcome to join the group for its Coffee Mornings. Tea, coffee, bread and cheese, sandwiches and fruit are on offer for £2 each time. It's on Tuesdays from 11am to 12:30pm at the Cube Community Centre, 116 Kings Avenue.

*Just turn up or contact Ching Wah on 07958 337 305 for more details.*



## Cost of Living Support in Lambeth



Lambeth Council and local charities are here to help you during the cost-of-living crisis. They can help you with:

- **Council tax support & rebate**
- **Access to benefits & grants**
- **Making your home more energy efficient & reduce your bills**
- **Household Support scheme -emergency help with food and fuel bills**
- **Job & business start-up support**
- **Holiday activities**

For further information visit [lambeth.gov.uk/cost-living-crisis-support](http://lambeth.gov.uk/cost-living-crisis-support) or scan the QR Code



## From the Met Police: Parcel thefts

Residents,

With Christmas coming you will no doubt be having an increased number of packages and gifts delivered to your homes.

In the last few years mainly due to the recent pandemic more and more people are having packages delivered to their homes. A large number of these deliveries are left outside people's houses. This has made it extremely easy for thieves to steal packages and the number of theft related crimes has increased across the borough due to this.

We have arrested a number of suspects in the local area for committing these crimes but due to the fact the big companies generally replace items or refund stolen goods quickly it makes it very hard for police to prosecute suspects.

Parcels being left on the doorstep also indicates to Criminals that you may not be home which has led to residents' properties being burgled and especially at this time of year this can be extremely upsetting.

As your local ward team we kindly recommend and ask when you are ordering packages and gifts if you could request for them to be delivered to one of your local delivery hubs/shops or lockers. All major companies and online retailers offer this service and these hubs/shops and lockers are usually found in close proximity to most addresses. If you look on Google you will be able to find your local drop off points.

Alternatively if you don't want to do this please arrange delivery for a day you're going to be in, ask for the package to be delivered to a neighbour or if no one is home you can request the package is kept by the courier and you can arrange a date for retry.

If you would like to get in contact with us to discuss this, crime prevention advice or any other local policing issue please feel free to contact us. If you see a suspect on your road or outside a property stealing packages please call 999 to give police the best chance of catching these criminals.

Kind regards

PC Neil Baker & PC Lauren Hirst

[Thornton@met.police.uk](mailto:Thornton@met.police.uk)

## Save the Dates

**Warm Space & free lunch at the Cube, 116 Kings Avenue**  
Thursdays at 1pm. All welcome. No booking required.

**Christmas Market at Clapham Park**  
Saturday 10th December 2022 from 11am to 3pm at the Cube Community Centre, 116 Kings Avenue SW4 8EP  
Come and support small local businesses. Free face painting and register to enter into a raffle. Other attractions include the Brixton Chamber Orchestra and Lambeth's Health & Wellbeing bus.  
Contact Ching Wah 07958 337 305 or Wahid 07717 720 584 for more details.

**Meet Santa**  
Sunday 18th December 2022, 3 to 7 pm at the One O'Clock Club, Agnes Riley Gardens (Poynders Road entrance). See <https://agnesrileygardens.org.uk> for more details and how to get tickets.

**Clapham Park Ward Safer Neighbourhood Panel meeting**  
Thursday 19th January 2023 from 6:30pm to 8pm at the Cube Community Centre, 116 Kings Avenue. All welcome.

**Raffle Prize Winner**  
Mr Richard Lea, the winner of the £100 M&S voucher in the raffle at the Clapham Park Community Fun Day in July, has kindly donated the voucher to the Weir Link Community Centre.



L: Richard Lea (prize winner); R: Peter Joseph (CPP)