

This Is Your Community Newsletter

October 2015, Number 6



Hi! Welcome to this autumn edition; it provides a mixture of information about existing activities and some new initiatives. I hope it might prompt or further your involvement with your Roupell community and I hope you enjoy the read!
Regards, Eva Christmas - Community Development Officer.

Stay and Play launch on our Estate

Stay and Play sessions for the under 5s and their families will be launched on **Monday, 30th Nov**, in partnership with the Treehouse Children Centre, and will continue each Monday at RP Community Centre from 1.30 – 3.00pm. A range of play sessions, as well as refreshments, will be provided for the launch.

Apart from enabling your child to play in a safe environment, this could be an opportunity for you to climb up the employment ladder and to start out as a volunteer at the sessions. This would enable you to build up skills in community involvement, early childhood learning, to learn the importance of play in the early years, develop your communication skills and much more. This can then be used to further your employability skills with the added benefit of receiving a reference.

For more information and to express your interest please contact Angela on 020 8678 9160 or Alison on 020 8674 3440. You will be required to undertake safeguarding clearance to ensure eligibility (DBS).

The Homework Club

Extra curriculum study support Programme in Literacy, Numeracy and Science available to children from 7 – 11 years of age, or school year 3 – 8, continues. The sessions run on Wednesdays for year 3 – 5 pupils and on Thursdays for school years 6 – 8. The venue for both days is Roupell Park Community Centre (Hyperion Hall).

Some children who have been regularly attending the sessions since its launch in Jan '15, report increased confidence in their approach to homework, their teachers have noted greater engagement in their work when in school and better grades. All pluses and all FREE of charge!

There are still a few places left. Parents, if you'd like your child to join, all you have to do is fill out an application form which you can find at our community office, or at the sessions, or for more info ring Navlet on 07984 337 812. Please note there will be no sessions during the half term week on Wednesday 28th and Thursday 29th October.

Pensioners' Coffee Morning

If you are over 65 years of age, there is a Coffee morning for you every Tuesday from 10.30am until 12.30pm and it takes place @ RP Community hall. This is an opportunity to expand your social life right on your doorstep! The members are in the planning phase for their Christmas lunch outing, so if you'd like to have your say, please join the group. The members recently visited Eltham Palace and won some extra funding to cover the cost of the trip. All the activities are totally free of charge to the members.

Dates for you Diary

Design your own T-shirt workshop

Wed 28th Oct @ RP Community Centre

Following the great success of the workshop earlier this year, we are providing the next screen printing workshop in the October half-term period, on Wed 28th from 1.00- 4.00pm. It is aimed at young people from 12 – 17 years.

Young people will design and produce T-shirts to their own designs, all free of charge to them. They will also have a taste of what running your own business entails, by selling at markets in Lambeth at a later date.

Kimalie Darlington who runs the screen printing workshops was awarded Young Entrepreneur of the Year from Lambeth Business Awards 2012 and is a Prince's Trust Ambassador. For more info or to apply, please contact Eva on 07983 5847676, or just turn up on the day!

This workshop is provided courtesy of London Youth Support Trust and sponsored by JP Morgan.

Friday Night Football

@ Roupell Park Football Pitch

'Train like a pro' in these FREE drop in sessions, coached by Millwall Academy Coaches.

They are split into two groups according to ages, but with some flexibility:

**For 8 – 13 year olds from 4.30 – 5.30 pm and
for 14 – 17 year olds from 5.30 – 6.40pm.**

The numbers of participants have steadily been growing each week and the children have really started to develop their football skills. The sessions will continue on the Friday of the half term week!

In addition, there is also an opportunity for those who wish to pursue Coaching Level 1 and Level 2 training, plus the perks of taking part in tournaments away from the Estate and taking part in some planned field trips.

If you would like your child/children to attend, please send back an application form, which can be picked up from the Millwall coaches at the sessions, to register their attendance. For more info please contact Dean on 079840 33221



Kitchens and Bathrooms – Making good the defects



It is difficult to express the frustration that the tenants, Board and staff have felt over the making good of the multiple problems caused by the works carried out by Wates to the inside of tenants' homes. However we at last have good news.

Over the last few months, thanks to the pressure we have put on Lambeth, they have been in discussions with Wates about putting the problems right. This has resulted in an agreement between the Council and Wates to deal with all the outstanding defects, whoever was responsible for the problem, and for the bill to be shared as necessary.

This means that Wates have now returned to site and will be working over the next few months (they will definitely be finished before March) to sort out the problems once and for all.

We know that people have lost faith in this process but it is important to know that:

- ◆ It will not be the same people doing the work as last time and it will be different Wates' staff overseeing the work.
- ◆ Lambeth have employed a whole new team to oversee the works.
- ◆ We are much more closely involved than last time having been effectively excluded before.

It is really important that you let Lambeth and Wates into your homes when asked as some of the works are very serious and may lead to very real problems for you and your neighbours if they are not carried out now.



Tree Pruning on Roupell

Would you like to see the fruit trees on our estate full of delicious apples, pears and plums to eat?

Stephanie from the Urban Orchard Project has offered to come to the orchard on our estate this winter to show residents how to care for our trees, and keep them healthy and fruitful. The best time to do this is in the winter, so keep an eye out for posters with the date around February.



Tools and hot drinks will be provided for this tree pruning activity.

To register your interest, please call Eva on 07983 584767.

External works

There is good news and bad news in relation to the works needed to the outside of the blocks.



The bad news is that the work is not now going to start until January. This is because of the need to complete leaseholder consultation and because of the contractors Christmas shut down. However work will commence as soon as the Christmas break is over. The works are currently scheduled to take 18 months, but we are pressing for the works to be done more quickly so the inconvenience you all face is reduced as much as possible.



The good news is that it has been agreed that all the work we asked for will be done.

This means replacing all the balcony balustrades, doing all the decoration work to the communal areas, including all the stairs, upgrading the communal lighting in blocks where this has not already been done and repairing the roofs where needed to deal not only with problems we are facing now but also to make sure we do not face them in the future.

Between now and the start of works we will be holding consultation meetings and keeping people informed as the programme of works are developed, including when the works are going to be done to each block.

IT volunteer needed!

We are preparing for our Internet Cafe re-launch! If you have IT skills and you would like to offer them to your community please call Stefan on 0207 926 0219 to discuss this in more detail.



How to get in touch

Roupell Park Community Office

Brockham Drive

Brixton, SW2 3RY

Office number including repairs: 020 7926 0214

Lambeth Call Centre 020 7926 6000/6666 (Out of hours after 5.00pm)

Email: rouPELLpark@lambeth.gov.uk

www.rouPELL.co.uk/@rouPELLpark

Our opening times are:

Monday 8.30 - 5.00pm

Tuesday 9.00 - 5.00pm

Wednesday 9.00 - 1.00pm (close half day for staff training)

Thursday 8.30 - 5.00pm

Friday 9.00 - 4.00pm

