

GET INVOLVED

Bulletin – Spring 2017

Welcome to the Spring edition of the quarterly Get Involved bulletin. We hope you enjoyed our previous bulletin in January. If you missed it please contact us to receive your copy.

The Resident Involvement Team aims to keep you up-to-date with what's happening in your community and across the borough. If you have any questions about any of the items, please contact Get Involved on **020 8753 6652** or email **Getinvolved@lbhf.gov.uk**

Meet the Resident Involvement Team

Daniel Miller Resident Involvement Manager T: 020 8753 6996 M: 07768 541 955 E: Daniel.Miller@lbhf.gov.uk		Sianline Crawford Support Officer T: 020 8753 4241 E: Sianline.Crawford@lbhf.gov.uk	
Michelle Samuel Community Engagement Officer South/Fulham T: 020 8753 2305 M: 07881 513 091 E: Michelle.Samuel@lbhf.gov.uk		Colette Prior Resident Involvement & Governance Officer T: 020 8753 6652 E: Colette.Prior@lbhf.gov.uk	
Dami Segun Community Engagement Officer North/Hammersmith T: 020 8753 2667 E: Dami.Segun@lbhf.gov.uk		Kim Shearer Community Facilities Officer T: 020 8753 6652 E: Kim.Shearer@lbhf.gov.uk	
Tony Rodriguez Inclusion Officer T: 020 8753 2951 M: 07799 656 448 E: Tony.Rodriguez@lbhf.gov.uk			

News & Updates

Digital Inclusion

We're pleased to tell you that the Digital Inclusion pilot projects have been progressing well since our last bulletin.

Queen Caroline Estate

Sessions have been running since the start of the year. Residents are receiving support for their everyday IT needs, ranging from setting up email, internet browsing, social media, online security and working with excel and word documents.

The sessions are proving to be popular, Queen Caroline TRA representative Ros O'Connell has found the sessions particularly useful for improving Excel skills for book keeping and other TRA tasks.



We would also like to thank Queen Caroline resident Edward Flach who has been volunteering his IT skills at the sessions and supporting H&F officers with their work.

The sessions at Queen Caroline are every **Thursday 10.30am – 12.30pm.**



Waterhouse Close

The sheltered scheme pilot project set up by the Waterhouse Close TRA and the Housing Team began at the end of February 2017 and ran through March and April. Bishop Creighton House delivered the sessions as part of their Connect programme and helped a core group of residents to set up email, browse the internet and communicate with friends and family on Skype.

After generating initial interest, we are looking to promote the activity further and hope to extend the sessions beyond May 2017.

Michael Stewart House

We also ran two taster sessions at Michael Stewart House (Fulham Court) on **23 March and 10 April** with support from our partners at Bishop Creighton House and TRA representative Barbara McNamara. The activities were well attended with residents learning how to get the most from their smart phones, tablets and laptops.

More information

We are also linking residents to digital inclusion sessions provided by third sector organisations such as the Citizens Advice Bureau and local libraries.

If you are from the Queen Caroline or Waterhouse Close area and are interested in attending the sessions or would like to know more about digital training and support near you, contact Tony Rodriguez, LBHF Inclusion Officer on **0208 753 2951** or email tony.rodriguez@lbhf.gov.uk

Inclusion Group puzzle project

Members of the H&F Inclusion Group and Resident Involvement Team have been working together on an activity to complete a giant jigsaw puzzle donated to the group by puzzle manufacturer Ravensburger.



The activity is being delivered as part of the Inclusion Group's framework focusing on engaging older people and addressing inclusion issues such as isolation and loneliness. Members of the group have been taking part in the pilot activity at **Plane Tree Court W6** to complete part of the 40,320 piece Disney themed puzzle.



The puzzle is divided into 10 individual themed panels consisting of approximately 4,000 pieces each. The Guinness Book of Records has recognised this as the largest puzzle in the world.

The Inclusion Group is reaching out to council housing residents and communities borough wide to participate in the project by taking ownership of their own part of the giant puzzle and being part of this exciting activity. Browning Court TRA has just become the latest group to express their interest!

If you are interested in taking part or if your TRA or sheltered scheme would like to complete its own part of the puzzle, then contact Tony Rodriguez, LBHF Inclusion Officer on **0208 753 2951**, email **tony.rodriguez@lbhf.gov.uk** or contact **Adriaan Van Zyl**, acting Chair of the Inclusion Group on **07968 096127**.

Housing Estates Improvement Project funding allocation for 2017/18

Following the Investment Group meeting on 20 March, the following schemes have received Housing Estates Improvement Project (Groundwork) funding for 2017/18:

Field Road - develop purpose built bin storage and the green spaces of the estate to alleviate fly tipping; and to promote biodiversity on estate green spaces through wildflower planting and Sustainably Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS).

Talgarth Road – install purpose built green roof bin storage for bin bags to improve aesthetic & air quality & discourage fly tipping.

White City - create an 'oasis space' at the front entrance of the community centre with a themed garden to include new planting, paths, benches, raised beds for food growing, storage areas, bicycle storage and repaving. The garden would reflect the diverse community of White City with planting themed by the different continents.

Worhmolt Estate - regenerate a currently disused central area and adjacent food growing area. Install proper bin storage and new soft and hard landscaping features.

Lancaster Court – install outside gym equipment.

Munden Street (Sheltered Scheme) – develop unused communal garden area to be an area for social inclusion and possible vegetable growing.

The meeting included Groundwork, residents and staff who presented their bids to the group.



23 bids were submitted this year., thank you to everyone who submitted an application. Groundwork have already contacted those who submitted bids to let them know the outcome. We are currently looking at the unsuccessful bids to see if there is alternative funding that may be available. Please bear with us and we will contact you as soon as we can.

Safety, security and fire safety assessments FREE of charge in LBHF

If you are over 65 or have a disability, you may be eligible to receive support on safety, security and fire safety issues in your home. This includes fire retardant bedding for smokers who smoke in bed and are at risk to themselves or others by doing so.

Contact us to book a FREE safety and security assessment. Once the assessment is completed, any resulting work identified will also be completed by us free of charge (applicable to residents who are in receipt of benefits – there is a one off £10 fee for those who are not on benefits).

Draught proofing –limited funding – encourage clients now before the winter months and funding runs out!!!

Bishop Creighton House can provide and install draught proofing and help you with energy saving to make your home warmer - and save a little on energy bills.

Draught proofing is free for H&F residents who are 65 and over, or have a disability or long term ill health. For all other H&F residents, the cost of draught proofing a door is £5-£15 and £5 per window (a discount of 50% is given to those receiving benefits).



For more information on both initiatives, contact **Tony Carmichael**, Project Support Officer, Safer Homes, Bishop Creighton House on **020 7385 9689**.

Could you help Fulham Good Neighbours run this year's Parsons Green Fair?



This much loved event returns **on Saturday 1 July 2017** and Fulham Good Neighbours are looking for volunteers to be event stewards. Duties will include directing people, collecting litter and being an all-rounder on the day. Fulham Good Neighbours need 20 volunteers for 10:00am-2:30pm and 20 for 2:00-6:30pm. For more information, or if you would like to help at the event, please forward your name, number and email to: **info@fulhamgoodneighbours.org** or call **020 7385 8850**.

Get Involved!!

Resident Involvement service improvement groups are looking for more members

Getting involved as a resident helps to improve your local community and the housing services you receive. You can get involved in a variety of ways.

The following Resident Involvement Service Improvement Groups are looking for more members:



Communications Group

We need more residents to join the group to work with us to ensure that our communications are timely, fit for purpose, clear, and consistent.

Inclusion Group

We need more residents to help us to review and agree methods of inclusion by planning projects, linking residents to services and working with third sector organisations.





Repairs Working Group

Help us to monitor and continually improve every day and emergency repairs and planned maintenance. The Repairs Working Group works closely with the repairs contractor, Mitie, and has a focus on performance, the delivery of high quality services and excellent standards.

Investment Group

This is a group of residents who work in partnership with the resident involvement team to assess and evaluate resident-led bids for improvements and allocate funding to projects.



Contact

If you would like to get involved in any of the Resident Involvement groups, or learn about other ways you can get involved as a resident, please contact the **Resident Involvement Team**:

Email: **GetInvolved@lbhf.gov.uk**

Web: **www.lbhf.gov.uk/residentinvolvement** Phone: **020 8753 6652**

In writing: **3rd Floor, Town Hall Extension, King Street, W6 9JU**

Borough Housing Forum

The next Borough Housing Forum is taking place on Tuesday 18 July at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Hammersmith Town Hall.

The meeting is open to all council housing residents. Please call **0208 753 6652** or email **Getinvolved@lbhf.gov.uk** to find out more.



H&F Foodbank needed more than ever – can you help?

Hammersmith & Fulham Foodbank is working harder than ever after an almost 40 per cent increase in the number of local people in need.

More than 6,040 packages containing food and other essentials were handed out between March last year and this April – up on 4,400 the previous year.

The charity, which receives funding from H&F Council, provides packages which last for three days at a time. Among those in need, 1,750 children relied on the packages, not included those fed during the charity's school holiday clubs.

H&F residents have risen to the challenge - 46 tonnes of food were donated and more than 100 people volunteered during the last financial year. Local schools, businesses, and faith groups have also provided vital support.



How you can help

You can help in a range of ways by:

Donating food and other essentials such as washing powder, nappies and sanitary towels.

Donating money to help the charity meet costs such as hiring warehouse space, sorting donations, running a delivery van and paying bills.

Volunteering for a range of roles such as sorting stock, issuing vouchers, helping out at the foodbank centre and helping run the charity's website.

Backing the charity with your business – including sponsoring or donating equipment, helping out as a team building day and sharing your skills.

For more information contact H&F Foodbank directly on **020 7731 3693** or email **info@hammersmithfulham.foodbank.org.uk**

Events & Activities

H&F to host jobs and training fair

Thursday 11 May, Hammersmith Town Hall

Hammersmith & Fulham Council and Job Centre Plus will host a jobs and training fair on Thursday 11 May. This free event will run in the Assembly Hall at Hammersmith Town Hall, King Street, from 10am until 3pm and is free to attend. Whether attendees are budding builders or have a hankering for the hotels or retail industry, there will be loads of training opportunities, apprenticeships and advice and guidance available to visitors from 57 exhibitors including well-known brands such as WorkZone, Westfield London, Thames Tideway, Mitie and Clarins.

Visitors to the event will be able to meet a wide range of employers within the retail, leisure, catering, hospitality, maintenance, recruitment, healthcare and construction industries and also find out about training opportunities and advice to help secure employment.

National Careers Service will be offering free 121 advice throughout the day and a workshop at 11am.

For further information, please call **Lesley Grant** on **020 8753 6548 / 07795267151**, or email lesley.grant@lbhf.gov.uk.

Big Lunch

Sunday 11 June

Bayonne Road, SW6 7PP

1:00-4:00pm



Amazing food
fun games for all ages
live music and a bouncy castle!

The Bayonne Road Big Lunch is part of an annual national event that encourages people to get out and have lunch with their neighbours – especially those living on the Bayonne Estate and neighbouring communities.

Previous years have seen over 200 residents socialising and enjoying the day together. If you would like to get involved, make a donation or work as a volunteer on the day please contact **Pastor Kenny Logan** at the Twynholm Baptist Church, 324 – 326 Lillie Road, Fulham SW6 7PP. Tel **0207 381 1469** or email **kenny@twynholm.org**

Disabled cyclists get on track with new inclusive BMX sessions at White City

A new BMX club that is open to residents with disabilities has launched in Hammersmith & Fulham. Run by sports development charity Access Sport, Wingz BMX sessions are inclusive and open to anyone with any disability, impairment and/or additional need, the sessions are also deaf-friendly.

When: Every Saturday, 11am-noon

Where: Woodmans Mews, London W12 0HU

How to get involved

Sessions are for anyone with a disability or impairment. No riding experience is required, beginners are welcome. Those with more severe physical disabilities in their lower body will be unable to take part, as Wingz BMX do not own trikes, recumbent cycles, or hand cycles.



What to wear – Long sleeves, long trousers and trainers. No shorts, t-shirts or open-toed shoes will be allowed.

What to bring – All equipment including bikes and safety gear is provided, so just bring a bottle of water.

How much – Your first session is free. Subsequent sessions are £2 each.

For more information email: **adam.thomas@accesssport.co.uk**

New Blades rowing club to carve up the Thames

Fulham Reach Blades has thrown open its doors and is launching a canoeing initiative to get local young people out on the water this summer. The club has been set up at the Fulham Reach Boat Club at Distillery Wharf and has already held a fun-and-games day to showcase what's on offer.

Sam Dell, in charge of the city sports academy at London Sports Trust, organised the recent event. "Our aim is to get young people from Fulham Reach, the Queen Caroline Estate and the wider Hammersmith area on to the water," he said.

"We're open to anyone from 11 up to seniors, and we've got around 30 boats available as well as fully qualified coaches."



To get involved, pop down to Unit A, Distillery Wharf, Chancellor's Road, Hammersmith, visit www.fulhamreachboatclub.co.uk or email samdell@londonportstrust.org

Calling budding young footballers aged 16-19

Queens Park Rangers FC College Academy are holding an elite football and education programme.

Dates: 31 May/ 26 July/ 16 August

Time: 10am-1pm

Venue: Queens Park Rangers FC, Loftus Road Stadium, South Africa Road, W12 7PJ.

For more information on the academy contact **Danny Edwards** on **020 8740 2524** or email DanieleE@qrp.co.uk

Economic Regeneration, Housing and the Arts Policy Accountability Committee

Hammersmith and Fulham Council wants to involve its residents in developing policy and scrutinising the administration. We want you to come along to meetings and tell us what you think.

Provisional meeting dates are: 7 June, 5 July, 6 September, and 8 November. We have a work programme so you can choose which meetings you want to come to.

If you have an idea for what the committee should discuss, please email **Ainsley Gilbert**, Committee Coordinator on ainsley.gilbert@lbhf.gov.uk or call **020 8753 2088**.

In case you missed it

If you would like to catch up on previous editions of our quarterly and monthly e-bulletins, call the Get Involved team on 020 8753 6652 or email Getinvolved@lbhf.gov.uk