



the **Clapham & Stockwell Newsletter**

One of Clapham's best-known venues is getting better. £350,000 has been earmarked to improve Clapham Common over the next 14 months.

Clapham Common comes back to life

The new investment follows last year's re-opening of the paddling pool and the development of a skateboard park for local children. Much of the new cash will go towards improving basic

services. Repair work has already seen lighting replaced so that nearly all the lamps on the Common are now operating properly, and money has also been set aside to improve fencing.



Local people have been calling for the Common's long-neglected bandstand to be brought back to life for many years. Now Lambeth will provide £100,000 towards the repairs needed, and is seeking support from other funders such as the Heritage Lottery Fund to complete works costing about £400,000.

Working with local groups and English Heritage, the council will be appointing specialists to begin surveys and the restoration itself, which will also take in surrounding storage buildings and landscaping.

Two new developments will help improve how the Common is run. A new advisory committee, including people who use the Common, councillors and council staff, is being set up to make sure that the views of local people are taken into account. And a new Park Ranger service will start after April, giving residents and visitors to the Common greater peace of mind.

To find out more about these developments please contact Parks Officer Paul Bassi on 020 7926 6211.



Clapham Festival

2004 26 June - 4 July

Last year the Clapham Community Partnership, an independent community organisation, put together a week long Clapham Festival which included community, sports and music events.

Work is well underway to plan the 2004 Festival. To help make the 2004 event even more successful and diverse we want to hear from local people and businesses interested in being involved, to truly make it YOUR CLAPHAM FESTIVAL.

The working group has been planning the festival for several months and a wealth of ideas are being investigated. If you have any ideas of the type of event that you think should be in this festival, please contact CCP c/o the Town Centre Office on 020 7926 0765 or email tboxall@lambeth.gov.uk

down your way

Doctors on top!

Well done to the Courtyard Surgery in Clapham, winner of the best GP practice category in the Evening Standard NHS Champions Awards.



The surgery, run by doctors Pamela Ashton (left) and John Hayfron-Benjamin, was nominated by Sue Terrapon, who told the Evening Standard: "You don't have to worry about your health at the Courtyard Surgery!"

The surgery extended a warm welcome to everyone, including the most vulnerable and socially excluded groups, the paper said. Ten per cent of patients are registered homeless – some are even

registered as living at the surgery - and a substantial proportion are drug addicts.

Said Dr Ashton: "It's essential GPs get involved in helping these people. Most of them come from very bad backgrounds. They get no training in how to live life and often go into prostitution, drugs and stealing. We look at the whole person, not just their illness. They love to be treated as normal human beings."

Top marks for Bonneville

Schools watchdogs OFSTED put Bonneville primary school, in Bonneville Gardens, top of the class in a recent report.

The school was one of three Lambeth primary schools praised by the inspectors. "Leadership is excellent and helps teachers and pupils give their best," the report said. Bonneville offered very good value for money and parents held it in high regard, it went on.

Local Stockwell councillor and executive member for Education Councillor Anthony Bottrall said: "It's great news that Bonneville's hard work and dedication to improvement has been recognised. The inspectors' report underlines how much Bonneville and our other schools have progressed in recent years."

Planning award for Stockwell

Congratulations Stockwell Partnership! The partnership has won the prestigious community and partnership initiative prize in the Mayor of London's annual Planning Awards.

Stockwell was up against stiff competition including the Paddington Waterside Partnership, Transport for London, Personal Safety initiative and Living Waterways.



L-R: Tony Carey (MD of St George plc), Keziah Kenyon, John McCay, Lucy Annan (all Stockwell Partnership), and Ken Livingstone.

Civic Awards 2004

Now's the time to get your nominations in for the Lambeth Civic Awards, for people who care about their community and make a positive contribution to the lives of others.

There are seven categories: Individuals in each of the borough's town centres, Streatham, Norwood, Clapham and Stockwell, Brixton and North Lambeth; a boroughwide award; and an award for a local small or medium-sized business which has contributed to the community.

Just tell us:

- Your name and full contact details (inc. tel and email);
- Who you are nominating and which category, with their contact details;
- What they do;
- How long have they done it;
- Is it voluntary or part of their job?

Entries to the Mayor's Office, marked Civic Awards 2004, Room 124, Lambeth Town Hall, SW2 1RW, email mayoroflambeth@lambeth.gov.uk, fax: 020 7926 2846

Closing date 16 April.

More information: 020 7926 2120

Get involved in Festival Fun this year

Stockwell Festival 2004 will take place on Saturday 10 July

Stockwell Festival is a community festival, the initiative of a wide range of community groups and individuals that aims to bring all the peoples of Stockwell together in celebration. The high point of the festivities is a 'Funday' in Larkhall Park - a vibrant showcase of local talent, enterprise and cultural diversity - with onstage performances, carnival procession, kids activities, stalls, food, storytelling tent, multi-faith 'peace' space and Benson's Funfair.

Now in its fourth year, the festival is opening up even more opportunities for diversity of expression and participation so that it can be of lasting benefit to the communities of Stockwell.

Take this opportunity to show off your talents, skills and culture: onstage at the Funday in Larkhall Park or in the street parade; with a market stall; in the storytelling tent; or as part of multi-faith activities in the 'Peace Space'.

Remember this? Last year's festival.



You may be a community group which would like to host its own event as part of weekend celebrations. **Dancer? Singer? Poet? Musician? Trader? Crafts Maker? Costume Maker? Artist? Juggler? Acrobat? Theatre Performer? Storyteller?** These celebrations are for everyone in Stockwell!

Interested? Then please contact: Justine Kenyon at Stockwell Partnership on 020 7735 5051 justine@stockwell.org.uk

In Memoriam Lee Seamen

It was with great sadness that the Town Centre team learnt of the death of Lee Seamen. Lee was for many years active locally on the Notre Dame Estate as

Clapham and Stockwell Area Committee - making decisions locally

The area committee is made up of the 15 local councillors representing Clapham Common, Clapham Town, Larkhall, Stockwell and Thornton wards, and is chaired by Councillor Joanna Clason. It meets in public, and gives you the chance to question councillors and council officers about local issues.

Forthcoming meetings:

April 28, 7.30pm Mursell Hall, Mursell Estate, Portland Grove SW8

Town Centre meetings

March 16, 7pm, **Clapham Park Partners in Action Annual General Meeting**, St Stephen's Church Hall, Weir Street SW2.

For more information on the work of the town centre office and meetings coming up please contact Paul Bradley on 020 7926 0765, pbradley@lambeth.gov.uk

Chair of the TRA, and the driving force behind the Orangery Project as well as a member of the Town Centre Board, Clapham Community Partnership and the Labour Party. We would like to extend our condolences to his partner at this sad time.

Contacting your local councillors

Clapham Common

- **Ruth Ling** (Lab)
020 7978 1644, rling@lambeth.gov.uk
Surgery: Second Saturday of the month, 10-11am, Notre Dame Tenants' Hall, Worsopp Drive, SW4.
- **Angela Meader** (Lib Dem)
020 7787 4265, ameader@lambeth.gov.uk
- **Darren Sanders** (Lib Dem)
020 8675 5328, ddsanders@lambeth.gov.uk
Surgeries: First Saturday of the month, 10-11am, Notre Dame Tenants' Hall, Worsopp Drive, SW4; second Saturday of the month, 10.30-11.30am, Contact Centre, Hambalt Road, SW4; fourth Saturday of the month, 10-11am, Oaklands Estate Community Hall, Hawkesworth House (junction of Abbeville, Cavendish and Trouville Roads), SW4.

Larkhall

- **Joanna Clason** (Lab)
020 7720 5694, jclason@lambeth.gov.uk
Surgery: Third Thursday of the month, 6-7pm, North Clapham Neighbourhood Office, 20 Cottage Grove, SW9.
- **Kevin Craig** (Lab)
020 7622 2067, kcraig@lambeth.gov.uk
Surgery: First Saturday of the month, 10-11am, Springfield Community Flat, 53-54 Brocket House, Union Road, SW8.
- **Gary Follis** (Lab)
020 7720 5694, gfolllis@lambeth.gov.uk
Surgery: Second Saturday of the month, 10-11am, Springfield Community Flat, 53-54 Brocket House, Union Road, SW8.

Clapham Town

- **Bernard Gentry** (Con)
020 7642 9078, bgentry@lambeth.gov.uk
Surgeries: Second Monday of the month, 7-8pm, Tenants' Association, Amersbury Tower, Westbury Estate, Wandsworth Road, SW8; fourth Thursday of the month, 6.45-7.45pm, Clapham library, Clapham Common Northside, SW4.
- **Jonathan Myerson** (Lab)
020 7720 7047, jmyerson@lambeth.gov.uk
- **Helen O'Malley** (Lab)
020 7498 1371, homalley@lambeth.gov.uk
Surgeries: Every Saturday, 11am-12 noon, Clapham Leisure Centre, Clapham Manor Street, SW4.

Thornton

- **John Pindar** (Lib Dem)
020 8671 5938, jpindar@lambeth.gov.uk
- **Stephen Dering** (Lib Dem)
020 7926 2028, sdering@lambeth.gov.uk
Surgeries: Second Wednesday of the month, 6.30-7.30pm, Henry Cavendish School, Hydethorpe Road, SW12; third Thursday of the month, 6.30-7.30pm, Community Advice Flat, 55 Plummer Road, Clapham Park Estate, SW4.
- **Lib Peck** (Lab)
020 8673 4697, lpeck@lambeth.gov.uk
Surgeries: First Thursday of the month, 6.30-7.30pm, Community Advice Flat, 55 Plummer Road, Clapham Park Estate, SW4; third Monday of the month, 7-8pm, Henry Cavendish School, Hydethorpe Road, SW12 (infants entrance, opposite Pentney Road); first Friday of the month, jointly with Keith Hill MP, 6-7.30pm, St Stephen's Church, Weir Road, SW12.

Stockwell

- **Anthony Bottrall** (Lib Dem)
020 7926 2269, abottrall@lambeth.gov.uk
- **Marcus Mayers** (Lib Dem)
020 7793 0766, mmayers@lambeth.gov.uk
Surgeries: Every Wednesday, 6.30-7.30pm, Stockwell Community Resource Centre, 1 Studley Road (behind Stockwell station), SW4; second and fourth Saturdays of the month, Stockwell Partnership Office, 157 South Lambeth Road, SW8.
- **Peter Bowyer** (Lab)
020 7642 5416, pbowyer@lambeth.gov.uk
Surgeries: First Saturday of the month, 11am-12noon, Stockwell Partnership offices, 157 South Lambeth Road, SW8; second Friday of the month, 11am-12noon, Hemans Hall, Hemans Street, SW8; third Saturday of the month, 11am-12noon, Stockwell Community Resource Centre, 1 Studley Road, SW4 (behind Stockwell tube); fourth Saturday of the month (to be confirmed), 11am-12noon (with Councillor Dan Sabbagh, Labour Member for Vassall), St Michael's Church Hall, Stockwell Park Crescent, SW9.

On your bike!



Borough residents Rita Foster and Annaliese Garratt give the thumbs up to a new cycling course designed to encourage women in Lambeth onto their bikes.

The pair took their first lesson on Valentine's day, as part of a free training package offered by the women's Design Service environmental charity, supported by local bike shops Brixton Cycles and Evans Cycles and funded by the council, Transport for London and the national lottery.

"I cycled a long time ago, and now I would like to get back my confidence," said Rita. "The training will help me overcome my fear of traffic, and cycling to work instead of driving will help me get fit and save money."

More free cycling and bike maintenance sessions are taking place through March and April. For details contact Alix Stredwick on 020 7490 5210, email astredwick@wds.org.uk

Paris in the Spring

Landlords in Lambeth could win a free weekend in Paris if they sign up with the borough's Lettings First scheme.

The scheme works with property agents and property owners who have housing to let, offering guaranteed rent in advance and income for up to five years. Lettings First, a partnership between Lambeth Council and Avenue Lettings, keeps an eye on your property and delivers vacant possession at the end of the lease.

Register by 31 March and you will be entered in the free prize draw for the Paris trip. Call 0845 064 0000 or visit www.lettingsfirst.com

Empty properties

What strategies are in place for bringing empty properties back into use?
What grants are available and what are the conditions for these grants?
What can the Council do if a property continues to be vacant?

Houses in multiple occupation

Tenants - wondered about whose responsibility it is to ensure your safe exit in case of a fire?
Landlords - want to know more about Lambeth's approach to dealing with HMOs?
What is going to be the effect of incoming Government Legislation?

Private sector landlords

Are you a good landlord, and would like to see the Local Authority do more to reflect this?
Do you want better business opportunities?
Should the Council do more to address the issue of bad landlords?

Grants and loans

Do you need your home adapted or repaired because of your age or due to a disability?
What assistance is available to keep your home warm, and to reduce energy bills?

Private sector tenants

Would you like to know more about your own rights and responsibilities as a tenant?
What does your landlord have to do if s/he wants you to move?
How do you best ensure that your deposit is returned when you leave?

Owners, Landlords and Tenants Fair

What has the London Borough of Lambeth got to offer you?

Do you want to know how you could find out more about the issues affecting private sector housing today?

Yes? The London Borough of Lambeth is holding two half-day Private Sector Housing Fairs on Friday 19th March and Saturday 20th March. We will be consulting on our strategies on all the above topics. There will be a series of speakers, as well as workshops and stalls. Refreshments will be provided.

Interested?

For more information about the fairs, or to register an interest in attending, please phone 020 7926 4444, or e-mail privatesectorhousing@lambeth.gov.uk

Private Sector Housing – What is it, and what's it got to do with me?

9.30am - 1.00pm
Friday 19th March
Assembly Hall
Lambeth Town Hall
Brixton Hill
SW2 1RW

OR

9.30am - 1.00pm
Saturday 20th March
Franklin Wilkins Building
King's College London
Stamford Street
SE1 9NN


Lambeth
Housing