

FAITH in Lambeth

Lambeth Faith Groups Newsletter

Issue 8, August 2007

WELCOME TO THIS EDITION OF FAITH IN LAMBETH.

Lambeth Council and the Faith in Lambeth Network would like to extend special thanks to everyone who contributed to this edition of Faith in Lambeth. We hope you enjoy reading it.

The next edition will be in October. If you would like to contribute please send your articles in by Friday 21st September 2007.

Highlights in this Edition

- Lambeth Communities First
- Faith in Lambeth
- Safer Neighbourhood Panels
- Community Advocate Course
- Peace Month
- Celebrating Sisters
- Feedback from Faith Events
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- Dates for Your Diary
- Funding and Freebies

For any additional information on the articles featured in this newsletter or if you would like to highlight any projects you are involved with, contact **Dinah-Mary Allotey on 020 7926 2664 or email dmallotey@lambeth.gov.uk**
www.lambeth.gov.uk/faithinlambeth

LAMBETH COMMUNITIES FIRST

The Lambeth Communities First report has been finalised and recommendations were considered by Cabinet on 30th July. Our Communities First programme is about providing better services with neighbourhoods and communities, hand in hand and in partnership with you.

We have 4 themes and they are:

- Being a Better Partner to the local Voluntary and Community Sectors
- Building Active Communities and Neighbourhoods
- Strengthening the Role of Ward Councillors as community leaders
- Developing our skills, behaviours and the information base for those working in a community/neighbourhood setting.

Communities First will provide opportunities for you to have a greater stake in how your neighbourhood is managed. We need to develop detailed plans that help introduce changes ahead and help support everyone involved.

The Government's Stronger, Prosperous Communities agenda places neighbourhood working high on the agenda. Future inspections will judge the health and vibrancy of local areas, based on the extent to which maximum citizen participation was encouraged in decision making and service delivery.

Being a Better Partner to the Local Voluntary & Community Sector embraces the critical role third sector groups and organisations play in our communities and neighbourhoods. The Council recognises that the Third Sector consists of a wide range of non governmental groups and organisations that principally reinvests surpluses



or raises funds to further social, environmental and cultural objectives.

The Council will support via Communities First, future work related to consultation, involvement and devolvement of arrangements that support bringing into action, activities needed to tackle issues made a priority either locally or borough-wide such as might be shared across the Faith Communities. There is a key interest to see greater input and delivery through improved relations with our Third Sector partners to provide enhanced service to address particular needs within increasingly complex neighbourhoods.

The sector will need support to be ready for the challenge and work ahead in delivering what's required. Consequently, the Communities First programme includes proposals for developing a Community Capacity Building Plan. The Council will work through Lambeth First, the local strategic partnership to develop this plan.

Building Active Communities and Neighbourhoods is very much where those consulted, felt their best efforts could be deployed. This requires partners and individuals in any one area to come together in the presence of key strategic partners to work on and progress tackling the wider issues that affect the community. Partnership working could then link to strategies that look to reduce exclusion, promote cohesion and better support delivery of particular projects and services required. This approach requires input from Faith Communities working in their areas, sharing their knowledge and expertise.

It makes sense to collaborate on shared priorities, in neighbourhoods where the 'landscape' is understood by partners including faith communities and key public sector partners. To this end the Council will work with Lambeth's Faith Groups to facilitate the development of an independent borough wide Lambeth Multi-Faith Forum.

Becoming more active includes things such as **volunteering**. A good citizen is one who volunteers, who cares, who helps and an active citizen is someone who initiates and works for change. Communities First encourages the widest form of active citizenship and volunteering, without which, community engagement is an empty vessel.

Strengthening the Role of Ward councillors as Community Leaders is an important element of Communities First. Councillors are responsible for setting the strategic direction and priorities of

the Council. As individual ward councillors they are also community leaders for the ward they have been elected to serve and are pivotal to local democracy.

Communities First promotes the concept of the ward councillor being outward looking towards the community rather than inward looking towards the Council.

Building our Skills, Behaviours and Information Base is vital to delivering the Communities First programme. We all need help to work better together to learn and understand requirements. A programme is proposed that will be offered to councillors, officers and community activists that would include leaders amongst our faith groups.

Working with members of Lambeth First's ACNB (Active Communities & Neighbourhood Board), a local leadership programme will be developed. This will be targeted at people who need to work within a community and neighbourhood setting.

Information Base: The provision of community information and intelligence on resources is critical to the delivery of area/neighbourhood working and community engagement. The Council's GIFTS system is currently being updated to map and profile local resources and services within each ward.

Faith in Lambeth

Be Inspired, Be Informed, Be Involved!

Be Inspired – to make a difference
Be Informed – about policy & Council plans
Be Involved – in the political process to be able to influence decision-making that shapes your community and neighbourhood.

Faith in Lambeth is undergoing change. Since November 2006, the Council has been engaging with Faith Communities and the wider community through its Communities First programme and Consultation meetings.

At the January Faith in Lambeth meeting the Faith Communities Draft report and the Communities First report were presented to attendees for discussion. These reports had been sent to the Lambeth Faith Steering Group and the wider faith community in December. Attendees were invited to feed into the Communities First programme and contribute to the shaping of the faith agenda

in Lambeth, by forwarding proposals to either the faith officer or the lead member for Faith Groups.

Between January and July responses came from various sectors of the Faith Community, on how you the faith community would like to engage with Council and other statutory agencies as partners. This culminated in a decision-making session in July.

On Wednesday 18th July representatives from across different Faith Communities in Lambeth met to decide on how to develop a Multi-Faith, borough-wide network. There were no Council representatives present except the faith officer who had been requested for the sole purpose of taking notes. This was a community meeting run by Faith Communities, with decisions taken by faith representatives to be presented to Lambeth Council.

Some of the key outcomes of the July meeting were:

- ✚ Unanimous agreement by attendees for the development of an independent, borough wide Lambeth Multi-Faith Forum
- ✚ Attendees volunteered to meet as a temporary Task Group on 25th July to outline a blueprint for the process ahead and a Work Plan
- ✚ Blueprint to be circulated to interested parties in the faith communities and then presented to the Council for support
- ✚ Timeframe of this process to be discussed after wider consultation within faith communities
- ✚ The Council will work with partners from the Multi-Faith Forum to prepare a Faith in Lambeth Action Plan.

If you would like to participate in the next phase of development or you require information on any of the topics discussed, please contact Dinah-Mary Allotey on 0207 926 2664, 07951 921 220 or dmallotey@lambeth.gov.uk.

A Word from Councillor Lorna Campbell

I would like to express my deep felt gratitude to the faith representatives who attended the July Faith in Lambeth meeting and those who were not present but sent through their written proposals. I am very confident that Faith Groups can work together with the Council to develop a Lambeth, borough wide, Multi-faith Forum.

I would particularly like to welcome the new faces who willingly gave their time to work with the Council and other Faith Groups for the first time and look forward to many more such occasions. I would also like to encourage those who attended the meeting to inform other faith organisations to get involved in this process, so that together we can build a sustainable Multi-faith body that we will all be proud of in the years to come.

Muslim Community Engagement

There has been a significant amount of work done engaging with members of Lambeth's Muslim communities. This has resulted in the production of a *Together – As One* Action Plan, which was approved and signed off by the Lambeth First Executive in June and will be disseminated to members of the community shortly.

This is a programme of work which seeks to strategically address the issues of concern for Lambeth's Muslim communities. The priorities have been determined by community members at the Lambeth Muslim Community Forum. This group has partnership from the main mosques in Lambeth as well as a number of community organisations including the Muslim Sisters Jamaat, the Muslim Safety Forum, Waaberi and First Step South amongst many others. The Forum is seeing increasing representation from Muslim mothers and grandmothers coming in from the local one o'clock clubs particularly from Brockwell Park and Max Roach. The Terms of Reference for this group will be agreed shortly and provides an opportunity for members of the community to set the priorities and engage in dialogue with relevant service providers.

The priorities fall under some of the key LAA (local area agreements) themes including employment and enterprise, health and well-being, and issues around engagement and crime and community safety.

Projects in this programme include raising awareness about Islam and employment outreach services, led by the GAIN project, to provide job brokerage services for members of the Muslim community.

A number of activities are also being planned during September's Peace Month including an event to raise awareness about Ramadan, and the significance of fasting.

If you would like to know more about any of the above work or the activities planned for

September then please contact Huma Munshi, Lambeth Muslim Communities Coordinator, on hmunshi@lambeth.gov.uk or 07983 560 032.

Safer Neighbourhood Panels

What are the Safer Neighbourhoods Teams?

The Lambeth Safer Neighbourhoods Teams are joint policing initiatives between the Police, the local authority, the public and other partners to identify and tackle issues of concern in your neighbourhood. The officers on your Safer Neighbourhoods Team, consisting of one Sergeant, two Constables and three Police Community Support Officers, are dedicated to your community and are additional to other policing teams and units in Lambeth. Starting this year, Lambeth will have 22 extra Police Community Support Officers. You can have a real say in deciding the priorities for your area through the Safer Neighbourhoods Community Panels.

What are the Safer Neighbourhoods Panels?

The Safer Neighbourhoods Teams are required to engage all sections of the community within their policing area, in order to establish a list of local policing priorities that the team can target, with the help of the community and local partners. In order to remain community focused, the Safer Neighbourhoods Teams have established Safer Neighbourhoods Panels. All the twenty one wards in Lambeth have Safer Neighbourhoods Teams and Panels.

How do Safer Neighbourhood Panels work?

The Panels assess and determine local crime and disorder concerns in consultation with local communities. They meet with local partners at least quarterly, decide the ward priorities and prioritise three of them (e.g. ASB related to alcohol, theft, street crime, engagement with hard to reach communities, etc). The Panels are currently working on ensuring greater representation of Lambeth diverse communities and increase their engagement of local people.

How can I contact my Safer Neighbourhood Team/Panel?

To find out more about how you can get involved in decisions about policing priorities in your own area through the Safer Neighbourhoods Panels please contact your local Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Ward	Safer Neighbourhood Location	Contact Number
Bishops	Kennington Police Station	0208 721 2731
Brixton Hill	Cavendish Road Police Station	0208 721 2892
Clapham Common	Cavendish Road Police Station	0208 721 2623
Clapham Town	Clapham Police Station	0208 649 2522
Coldharbour	236 Coldharbour Lane	0208 649 2008
Ferndale	Brixton Police Station	0208 721 2774
Gipsy Hill	Gipsy Hill Police Station	0208 721 2617
Herne Hill	236 Coldharbour Lane	0208 649 2007
Knights Hill	Gipsy Hill Police Station	0208 721 2618
Larkhall	Clapham Police Station	0208 649 2522
Oval	Frank O'Neill House	0208 721 2761
Princes	Kennington Police Station	0208 721 2627
St Leonard's	Streatham Police Station	0208 721 2621
Stockwell	Clapham Police Station	0208 649 2522
Streatham Hill	Streatham Police Station	0208 721 2620
Streatham South	Streatham Police Station	0208 721 2628
Streatham Wells	Streatham Police Station	0208 721 2823
Thornton	Cavendish Road Police Station	0208 721 2622
Thurlow Park	Gipsy Hill Police Station	0208 721 2619
Tulse Hill	Brixton Police Station	0208 721 2624
Vassall	Frank O'Neill House 43-59 Clapham Road Clapham SW9	0208 721 3661

SACRE - Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education, *Brian Netto, Adviser*

I joined Lambeth in January 2007, as adviser for Ethnic Minority Achievement [EMA], English as an Additional Language [EAL] and Modern Foreign Languages [MFL]. I am also acting as consultant to Lambeth's SACRE [Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education], and will be responsible for religious education from September 2007.

Lambeth's religious communities are sometimes not fully acknowledged. Data exists on religious affiliation from the last census, and this will be updated when the current census data becomes available. The recent research on the achievements of black African pupils [2006] made very little reference to the largely Christian religious heritage of many of these young people.

Under the new framework for the inspection of schools, religious education is no longer under the spotlight. Although it still has statutory provision, it is unlikely to be a focus for most Section 5 inspections. Thematic inspections will cover good practice in this area but this will only relate to a small minority of schools. SACREs are due to take on more monitoring responsibilities, details of this are yet to be finalised.

In trying to bring religion back into the Lambeth spotlight, the EMA team recently organised a conference on 4th July at the Oval, on the theme of Culture and Identity, with key note speeches on Islam and Christianity.

SACRE is also making links with the interfaith forum in Lambeth, as SACREs, alongside schools, will take on responsibilities for community cohesion. This is an area of national concern, and one to which all religious communities are responding. It is not surprising that the national organisation which represents SACREs has made awards for local authorities and schools which focus on interfaith work. This includes all-white, mainly Christian schools forging links with schools with diverse religious, ethnic and linguistic communities. Young people from different backgrounds are being encouraged to interact and learn about each other's religious and cultural backgrounds.

Working in Lambeth offers many challenges, but potentially offers many rewards as well!

If you would like more information about the religious syllabus please call 020 7926 9689 or email bnetto@lambeth.gov.uk.

Have you ever wanted to find out how the Council operates?

Lambeth Voluntary Action Council are facilitating training for community representatives to encourage them to become involved with the local democratic process and gain better understanding of the functions of the Local Strategic Partnership. See the notice board section for details of the autumn session.

One recent delegate Saadatu, concluded that the three day course was long and not all representatives can commit to this duration of time. She did however, note that the trainer had been very clear in the opportunities for members of the community.

Below, read about another community member's account of how he enjoyed the Community Advocate course.

My Reflections on the Community Advocate Course, *Canon George Ansah*

I came to the course without much information as to who a community advocate was, my lay understanding was that it was to do with a voice or stand for the community.

The course proved that and even more: 'the thinking of the Government and how we respond to it as a community', in other words 'speaking the language of the system'. It offered me as a participant an insight into the current structures of the statutory bodies e.g. Lambeth Council, in relation to the current changes and expectations of Government policies, particularly where the voluntary sector is concerned.

The course strengthened my conviction in the services we provide in our communities. It gave me an insight into why and how the councils run government policies the way they do; the reasons behind how certain Government policies are conceived and implemented; local government structures and how politics influences choices and decisions; and also how important it is for the Local Communities to be part of the decision making process.

The course also highlighted the need for us as local service providers to reshape our thinking and strategise to respond to government initiatives, such as the importance of business plans, SLA (service level agreements), monitoring

and evaluations, accountability, targets and time scale in service delivery and feedback.

I also gained understanding of certain abbreviations such as the LSP (local strategic partnership), the PCT (Primary Care Trust), the relevance of such agencies and how to access their resources. Other useful topics included funding, an understanding of how and why government distributes it's funding.

We also looked at the government's new way of looking at service delivery, advantages of being a consortium over a small community group, contracts and issues to do with bidding for contracts.

I came away thinking, 'this course is so relevant that, this is the sort of thing government should invest in if it wants to equip its stake holders and beneficiaries for the use of the available resources.' **"It is capacity building that is really relevant and necessary."**

Canon George Ansah, Emmanuel Church Youth & Community Centre

Child Protection in Places of Worship

Lambeth Safeguarding Children's Board held another free, successful child protection training for faith groups in Lambeth. The feedback from attendees was very positive and we will be holding one more session in the autumn.

Lambeth Council is committed to promoting the well-being of children. Safeguarding children is everybody's responsibility and we would like to encourage children and youth workers from all faiths to attend this free training course. The next and last training session for this year will be **Wednesday 17th October**. Details of time and venue will be confirmed nearer the time. Meanwhile please book early to avoid disappointment.

For more information please call Dinah-Mary Allotey on 0207 926 2664, 07951 921 220 or email me at dmallotey@lambeth.gov.uk.

An improved understanding of South London's Multi-faith situation, Sarah Thorley

Saturday 19th May 2007, saw the launch of two reports commissioned by the South London Inter Faith Group (SLIFG). They were the results of a year's work (one day a week for each report)

funded by the Faith Communities Capacity Building Fund. The report named above, directly concerns the multi faith situation in south London as it is now. Each of the twelve London boroughs south of the River was investigated for inter faith activity and engagement in terms of the local council's initiatives, the places of worship and inter faith or multi faith groups.

The resulting document finds that there is much going on in south London that is exciting and encouraging but that there is a woeful lack of communication between the different bodies. The local councils don't know about the inter faith groups. The local inter faith groups don't know about each other. In some places there is good contact between faith communities, in others there's nothing happening. The consequence is that many opportunities are missed; that often dates clash and publicity is not shared so excellent events are arranged but few people come.

Lambeth comes out of the survey quite well. In Lambeth itself there are two independent and well supported inter faith groups: LAMAG (Lambeth Multi-faith Action Group) and CSFF (Clapham & Stockwell Faith Forum), both of which liaise well and organise a very interesting programme of events. The Council of Christians and Jews also has an active branch based in Lambeth. There are two Buddhist centres, six Islamic centres, two Hindu temples and two synagogues besides a huge number of churches of various denominations. Many of these places of worship have linked up and opened their doors to people of other faiths. Lambeth is currently the only borough to fund a full time 'Faith Link person (every borough should have one!) so we are very lucky to have Dinah-Mary. We have an exemplary newsletter: Faith in Lambeth. But in all these areas there is much more to do to get many more people involved!

Lambeth Peace Month



Lambeth Peace Month 1 – 30 September 2007

Every year London celebrates the London Week of Peace in September and this year Peace Week falls between 9th and 16th September.

In Lambeth we will be dedicating the whole month of September to Peace in Lambeth. Events are being co-ordinated and organised by the community and public sector representatives, with the Peace Month steering group chaired by Supt Paul Wilson from Lambeth Police. The theme for Lambeth Peace Month 2007 is ***Peace on the Streets.***

A promotional bus has been hired to tour schools and estates in Lambeth from Wednesday 29th August to Friday 14th September which will be manned by Sergeants from the Safer Neighbourhood Teams, council officers and partners from the community and voluntary sector. Activities planned for the month include drama sketches, a children and young people's writing competition on the subject of peace, community reassurance workshops, a Peace Walk, outdoor Peace Picnic, Afterlife of Slavery play, Multi-faith Women's Art Session, International Day of Peace events and Youth Oscars.

If you would like more information on the events being organised or if you would like to be involved please call 0207 926 2681 or 0207 926 2664. Alternatively, you can contact us by sending an email to peacemonth@lambeth.gov.uk. See the diary section for event details.

Have you ever wanted to know more about Islam?

As part of Lambeth Peace Month, two events are being organised to raise awareness about Islam and some of the basic practices.

The first of these will be Understanding Islam on the 4th September at Stockwell Community Resource Centre, 6 – 8pm. This event will be led by Adeela Shabazz. This will be an opportunity to learn more about some of the basic principles, including the five pillars of Islam, the diversity within the community and get an understanding of the Muslim communities in Lambeth. There are many misunderstandings particularly in the current climate, and this session will challenge these negative stereotypes. Come and hear about what the role of women in Islam really is and hear about the achievements of women throughout Islam.

The second of these important events is an opportunity to break fast with your Muslim friends during Ramadan. The Iftari event will be led by Ebrahim Rashid and will have young people reciting from the Qu'ran. Have you ever wondered why Muslim people fast? What this actually entails? Come and learn more. Refreshments will be provided.

If you would like to get involved or submit a question to the speaker for the respective events, please call Huma Munshi on 07983 560 032 or email hmunshi@lambeth.gov.uk



Peace Month Inter-Faith Picnic, Alan Gadd, Secretary SLIFG

When news came in April that this year Peace Week in Lambeth was to become a Peace Month for the whole of September, the Committee of South London Inter Faith Group (SLIFG) had a brainstorming session about what to propose. Out of this came the idea for an 'Inter Faith Peace Picnic', located in a prominent public place, and shared by members of Lambeth's faith communities. What we hoped to achieve was a consolidation of good relationships between the faith communities in Lambeth, and to make a visible public statement of mutual respect and cooperation.

The next question was when. A Sunday afternoon or evening would give the best chance for all faiths to participate, and since the evenings begin to get darker during September we opted for 3pm - 5pm. As for the date, someone pointed out that in 2007 Ramadan begins on 13 September and, by coincidence, Rosh Hashanah, the start of the period of the Jewish High Holydays, also falls on 13 September this year. With Sunday 2 September still affected by school holidays, we concluded that Sunday 9 September was the only sensible date to choose.

Where to have the picnic? Windrush Square in the centre of Brixton quickly came to mind as a public space with high visibility. With the assistance of Lambeth's Faith Links contact, Dinah-Mary Allotey, we have been able to book **Windrush Square for the Peace Picnic from 3pm to 5pm on Sunday 9 September**. We are grateful to Lambeth Active Communities who have supported the event by underwriting the £500 deposit that is payable to Lambeth Events for such a booking.

So please put the date in your diary. More details will be on the website www.southlondoninterfaith.org.uk. Alternatively, call Alan Gadd on 020 8678 8977 or email secretary@southlondoninterfaith.org.uk.

What should be in Lambeth's Sustainable Community Strategy ? Complete our online questionnaire and tell us what you think

If you were in charge, what would you do to make Lambeth a better place?

Lambeth First is rewriting the current Sustainable Community Strategy to make sure that the actions in it are relevant and up to date. The purpose of the Strategy is to agree a clear picture of what Lambeth needs to look like by the year 2020 and to set out the actions that need to be taken to get there.

Lambeth First has developed its first thoughts on what Lambeth will look like in 2020. Now we want your views on how we can make these a reality. We also want to check that we have captured the right priorities for the borough. Are there any other important challenges that we've missed?

If you would like to have your say please visit the Lambeth First website – www.lambethfirst.org.uk and take a few minutes to share your views on how Lambeth can be made a better place to live in, work in or socialise in.

(Lambeth First is the boroughs Local Strategic Partnership - Members of the Partnership include Lambeth Council, Lambeth Primary Care Trust, Lambeth Police, Lambeth Voluntary Action Council, Lambeth College, Southbank Employers Group, JobCentre Plus, Learning and Skills Council, London South Bank University.)

Celebrating Sisters

Following on from the overwhelming success of the January Eid festival, an event to celebrate Muslim women will be held **on Saturday 18th August 2007, 11.30am - 4.30pm**, at Charles Edward Brooke Girls' School, Langton Road, London, SW9 6UL.

Members of the Muslim community, who helped to formulate the creative programme for the day, will join Lambeth Council to host this celebratory event.



The event will be an opportunity to come together and develop networks and friendships, and to get advice and information. A number of service providers will be in attendance including health service representatives with information and education specialists with advice about studying, courses and school provision.

If you want further details on 'Celebrating Sisters', please contact Huma Munshi on 07983 560 032 or email hmunshi@lambeth.gov.uk.

Lambeth Spirituality and Wellbeing Alliance Training Opportunity, *Nicholas Henry*

The Lambeth Spirituality and Wellbeing Alliance was formed following an Open Space Event held in July 2006. The event brought together members of the faith communities in Lambeth along with members of the public, service users and representatives of health and social care agencies. The idea was to discuss the relationship between spirituality and wellbeing and to establish ways that the faith communities can strengthen the wellbeing of their members and increase community cohesion.

Fostering and respecting the spiritual and cultural values of the diverse communities in Lambeth is one of the nine directional statements in the

Lambeth Mental Health Promotion Strategy. Lambeth is one of the places with the highest levels of mental and emotional distress in the world. This is a reflection of the complex social, ethnic and economic environment of Lambeth. Supporting mental and emotional wellbeing in Lambeth poses a particular challenge to faith communities.

The Lambeth Spirituality and Wellbeing Alliance is a forum for the discussion of issues relating to spirituality and wellbeing. We aim to promote spirituality as an integral part of wellbeing and to raise awareness about good mental health and wellbeing.

The Lambeth Spirituality and Wellbeing Alliance has recently been awarded a grant from the Faith Communities Capacity Building Fund. The grant will be used to provide training for members of faith communities in the Mental Wellbeing Impact Assessment. This is a toolkit to allow an organisation to look at the way it operates and to assess what impact, positive or negative, it has on its members. It helps to identify action plans which could help increase wellbeing.

If you would like further information please contact Nicholas Henry nicholas.henry@slam.nhs.uk or call 0203 228 6568.

Feedback from Faith Events

Breakout, *Grant Everson, Youth Worker* *Holy Trinity & St Matthias Church*

Breakout, a youth outreach held over the weekend 4 - 6 May 2007, focused on doing some gardening on the St Martin's Estate, Tulse Hill. The work was undertaken by young people and some older young people. Our goal was to do some practical outreach by helping people who are unable to tend to their gardens, and also invite some young people from the estate to a film evening and a celebration service at the church namely Holy Trinity & St Matthias Church, which served as our base for the weekend.

BREAKOUT was a joint initiative by the young people of Holy Trinity Church, Chatsworth Baptist Church, West Norwood and the *IMAGINE Project*, with assistance from the St Martin's management and Pinnacle.

It proved to be a very productive weekend as young people joined in on Saturday and Sunday afternoons as we toiled to clear gardens, removing loads of “unwanted and alien vegetation” from the gardens of some residents and also the Community Centre.



A picture of some of the “workers”, to whom we are very grateful.

This is hopefully the first of many such adventures onto the Estate as we continue to be involved in the community, taking the opportunity to be practically involved in the community, providing support to local residents but also giving our young people an opportunity to practice their faith and a sense of citizenship with those we are in community with.

Clapham & Stockwell Faith Forum, Hannah Barker

The Forum’s youth multi-faith football club ‘Lambeth FC’ continues to go from strength to strength. The Year 9 pupils from Lambeth Academy have won their first tournament, held celebrations with family and friends at the end of the first season, and presented a showcase of their achievements at a Youth Opportunities Fund event at the Oval. They are now playing regularly in the Saturday Larkhall League, where we are sure they’ll secure many more wins this season!



May 22nd saw over 70 members of the Forum descend on the Stockwell Community Resource Centre for our Annual General Meeting. It was a great opportunity to celebrate our achievements over the last year and to say thank you to our many friends and partners who continue to give us so much of their valuable time and energy. It was also a great excuse to share local food from a round the world – always an important part of any Forum event!



Hannah Barker, Clapham and Stockwell Faith Forum, 07958 353 652, info@csff.co.uk or visit the website www.csff.co.uk.

Church trails and picnics! Sarah Thorley

Holy Trinity C of E and Gatton Muslim primary schools in Upper Tulse Hill and Tooting respectively, have been continuing their termly exchanges. Three weeks ago, Gatton year 5 pupils joined up with Holy Trinity children to complete a ‘church trail’ in Holy Trinity Church. Most of the Muslim children had not been inside a church before and had lots of questions to ask the vicar, Revd Bill Musk. A picnic and run around in Brockwell Park afterwards was a lot of fun. The return visit to Gatton School involved a question and answer session about ‘Being a Muslim’ with Gatton teachers, a picnic, playing rounders and football on the Fishponds playing fields near Gatton School. And a torrential downpour on the way home! These Year five children have met six times over the year and several of them have swapped telephone numbers and email addresses.
Not all the news about religions is bad!

Notice Board



Community Advocates Course

This course is designed for those who would like to become more active citizens through Lambeth First– a partnership in which representatives from the Council, Police, Business Community, Primary Care Trust and Voluntary and Community Sector work together to improve public services and quality of life in Lambeth. This course prepares participants to advocate effectively on behalf of their communities and organisations, and to give the Voluntary and Community Sector a strong voice in Lambeth First.

The next session will be from **25th- 27th September, 10am-4pm** each day at High Trees Community Development Trust based at St Martin's Library Centre, 220 Upper Tulse Hill, London SW2 2NS

Course content: Each course will set out the current national and local context in which Government and the Voluntary and Community Sector are operating together, will examine opportunities to engage in partnership working, and will explore how you can represent your community most effectively.

For more information please contact **Joanna Purkis, LVAC Active Communities Project** by emailing lvac-acp-sdcmo@lambethvac.org.uk or calling 020 7737 9463. You can also visit the website www.lambethvac.org.uk.

Faith Groups and Substance Use Directory

The Community Safety Drug and Alcohol team recently commissioned a brief research on the capacity of Faith Groups in the field of substance use. The outcome of this piece of work was the production of a directory of faith based organisations providing some form of service in the

area of drug and alcohol use and details of relevant treatment agencies for substance misuse. If you are interested in the report or directory please contact Paul Asquith or Adina Bozga, Lambeth Drug and Alcohol Team on 0207 926 2737.

BeatBullying Inter-faith Project

The 'youth panel' meet every 2-4 weeks on Thursday afternoons (4.30-6pm) at the Stockwell Community Resource Centre, from now until the autumn. Highly skilled facilitators and refreshments provided and transport can be arranged. 11-16 year old of all faiths and none from across Lambeth are welcome to get involved. For more information please call 020 8768 1016. Alternatively, contact Diane Lench on 020 8768 1011 or email diane@beatbullying.org.

Mental Wellbeing Impact Assessment Training

2nd and 3rd October 2007, 10am -2pm
Room of Peace at Lambeth Hospital

This 2 day training course will be provided by members of the Mental Health Promotion Unit and the Pastoral Care Services from South London and Maudsley NHS Trust for faith organisations.

The first day will look at issues relating to aspects of mental wellbeing and its links with spirituality. The second day will train participants in the use of the toolkit. Lunch will be provided.

Faith communities wishing to conduct the assessment within their own settings will be given further support from members of the Mental Health Promotion Unit.

If you would like to book a place or if you would like further information about the course or any other aspects of the work of the Alliance or the Mental Health Promotion Unit please contact Nicholas Henry at nicholas.henry@slam.nhs.uk or on 0203 228 6568 or Caroline Morris on 0203 328 6396, caroline.morris@slam.nhs.uk.

Celebrating Faith in Lambeth Directory

In June and July Lambeth Active Communities sent out some forms by email and by post to faith organisations in Lambeth for information. The information is to be used for publishing a directory of faith based organisations in Lambeth. This is a

Friday 21st September

Peace on the Streets 6pm - 9pm

Panel discussion around gun and crime. Potential panel members include Courtney melody, (Vibes FM), Daddy Ernie (Choice FM) and Lee Parker.
Venue: Assembly Hall, Lambeth Town Hall, Brixton Hill, SW2.

Switch 7.30pm

Music and Dance extravaganza. Musical by the young people of Light & Life Full Gospel Church.
Venue: 105 -111 Landor Road, Stockwell, SW9

Saturday 22nd September

Peace Tent at Stockwell Festival. For more information contact Clapham & Stockwell Faith Forum on 07958 353 652 or email info@csff.co.uk.

Saturday 29th September 12pm – 3pm

Churches for Peace on the Streets
An open air event for all the family. Churches in Lambeth join hands for this event in support of Peace Month. Come and enjoy gospel music and entertainment from young people in Lambeth.
Venue: Tate Gardens, (in front of Brixton Library).

If you would like to know more about Lambeth Peace Month or would like some more information about any of the above events, please call 0207 926 2681 or 0207 926 2664. Alternatively, you can email us at peacemonth@lambeth.gov.uk.

St Peter's Centre for Meditation and Peace

The St Peter's Centre will be opened throughout September for daily meditation: **7.54am - 8.20am and 6.25pm – 7.00pm**. Meditation is a way to creatively enter the silence of God within us, the way of 'pure prayer'. For more information please call Rebecca on 07896 936 625 or email rebeccdotb@yahoo.co.uk.

Venue: 308 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall SE11 5HY

Alive and Well- Health and Beauty Show Saturday 8th September 10am – 6pm

This year's theme is 'Taking care of God's Temple'. The show aims to educate, inspire and challenge Christians to make life transforming decisions based on reliable, expert advice.

Is your company, business organisation or charity involved in beauty, health, fitness or well-being? If

so, whatever the size of your organisation be sure to take advantage of various sponsorships and exhibition opportunities

For enquiries and tickets please call Morin Carew on 07958 236 006 or 0207 498 0279. Email: r Impressions@aol.com or visit the website: www.aliveandwell.org.uk.

Tickets: £7.50 (before 8th Sep); £10.00 at the door and £5.00 for students and OAPs.

Venue: Covenant House, 5 Waterworks Road, off Brixton Road, SW2.

Buddhist Meditation & Relaxation

Mondays 11th, 18th & 25th September at 7.30pm

Happiness is a state of mind that can only be achieved when people know and can control their minds.

Buddhism in a Nutshell

Thursdays 13th, 20th & 27th at 7.30pm

This is an introductory course that provides a general overview of basic Buddhist philosophy and principles for complete beginners. Suggested donation for all activities £3/£5.

Venue: Jamyang Buddhist Centre, The Old Courthouse, 43 Renfrew Road, SE11 4NA

Soul Connexions – Alpha Night

13th September 2007, 7pm-9pm

In partnership with Alpha International, come and be inspired by Nicky Gumbel and learn how to run an amazingly effective Alpha course in your church or community.

Soul Weekend 15-16 September 2007, 7pm – 9pm an opportunity to invite people to an Alpha Dinner.

Venue: Church.co.uk, 1a Kennington Road, London SE1 7QP. Directions: 5 min walk from Waterloo International, 1 min from Lambeth North underground station.

**Holy Days and Festivals
(July 2007 – October 2007)**

August 2007

Friday	3	Tisha B'Av (Judaism)
Monday	6	Transfiguration (Christianity)
Wednesday	15	Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary (Catholic)
Tuesday	28	Raksha Bandhan (Hinduism)

September 2007

Tuesday	4	Janmastami (Hinduism)
Sunday	9	Lailat-ul-Bara'h (Muslim)
Tuesday	11	Ethiopian New Year's Day (Rastafarianism)
Thursday	13	Ramadan (Islam) Rosh Hashana (Judaism) Jewish New Year
Saturday	22	Yom Kippur (Judaism)
Sunday	23	
Thursday	27	Navaratri begins (Hinduism) Sukkot (Judaism) Feast of Tabernacles

October 2007

Tuesday	2	Dussera (Hinduism)
Friday	5	Simchat Torah (Judaism)
Sunday	7	Sukkot (Judaism)
Saturday	13	Eid Ul Fitr (Islam) End of Ramadan
Sunday	14	Shemini Atzeret (Judaism)
Saturday	20	Lailat al-Qadar (Muslim)

Funding and Freebies

Big Lottery Family Learning Fund: Minimum £10,000, Maximum £500,000. The programme helps parents to understand more about how their children learn and encourages adults and children to learn as a family.

By "family" we mean at least one parent or adult carer and at least one child under the age of 16. Big lottery will only fund projects that involve adults and children learning together and deliver all three of the following changes:

- **family members participate in and enjoy educational activity more**

- **family members have more skills and knowledge (these may include confidence and effective communication);**
- **parents and carers are better able to interact positively with their children and support them in learning.**

The fund wants to support families who face barriers to learning or who are not confident helping their children to learn. They are particularly interested in hearing from projects where learning is not based on getting a qualification and those that will help families who have not been involved in learning together before. They are looking for imaginative projects that meet local needs and remove the practical barriers to learning, for example, by providing travel costs, additional support for disabled participants, or childcare.

You can apply for grants of over £10,000 and up to £500,000, though we would expect the average grant to be between £100,000 - £150,000. Projects will be funded for up to five years. Applications to the Family Learning fund can be made on a local or national basis if you are:

- **a registered charity**
- **a voluntary or community group**
- **a charitable or not-for-profit company**
- **a social enterprise**
- **a private sector organisation.**

Closing date: 29th August 2008. If you have any questions about this programme, or you want an application pack and guidance notes, please call the Big Lottery Fund Advice Line on 0845 4 10 20 30.

The Local Network Fund for Children and Young People provides small grants and capacity building support for small voluntary organisations working with children and young people. Most grants will range between minimum **£250** and maximum **£7,000**, for one year's funding only. Two-year funding may be awarded to projects in exceptional circumstances. The maximum two-year grant is £6,000 each year for two years. The objective of the Fund is to enable communities to develop projects and activities for children and young people with limited opportunities or access to services that many young people take for granted.

Administrators ensure that outreach and support are available to support applicants. Decisions on allocating funding are made by assessment panels comprising people with knowledge of issues faced

by children in the communities served by the funds.

Applications are invited under the themes outlined in *Every Child Matters*:

- **Being healthy**
- **Enjoying and achieving**
- **Making a positive**
- **Achieving economic well-being**

The closing date for the next round is Friday 7 September 2007.

For more information contact the Capital Community Foundation's local office for Lambeth at 0207 582 5117. You can also visit the Education website at www.everychildmatters.gov.uk.

Community Champion Funds supports the work of local people who can encourage others to get more involved in renewing their neighbourhoods. The fund is designed to increase the skills levels of individuals to enable them to act as inspirational figures, community entrepreneurs, and community mentors/leaders, in order to increase community involvement in regeneration and learning activity. The Fund also encourages older (50+) volunteers to get involved in helping their communities. The main type of funded activity is very small-scale but it is activity that makes a real difference.

Contact Sue Halstead on 020 7217 3711 or email sue.halstead@gol.gsi.gov.uk, or visit the website at www.go-london.gov.uk.

Sutton Trust: The main objective of the Sutton Trust is to support innovative projects that provide educational opportunities for young people from non-privileged backgrounds. Your innovative start-up project should have the scope to benefit large numbers in the future. The Sutton Trust will fund projects across the UK, in any area where there is need, including rural and inner city areas. The only exception is for specialist schools – only specialist schools in London are funded. The Sutton Trust tends to fund projects in a formal education setting, working primarily with organisations such as schools, universities, community groups, charities and research bodies. We do not fund individuals. Our work with the secondary school age group is focused on gifted and talented students. **There is no deadline for applications as Trustees meet regularly throughout the year.** For more information please visit www.suttontrust.com

Trust for London supports new and emerging small voluntary organisations that benefit people and communities in London. The funding may be used to cover general cost of running an organisation, but the Trust does not cover full time

staff salaries in full or part time. They are especially keen to receive applications ethnic minority organisations.

TFL funds areas of work which have one (or more) of the following aims:

- To challenge discrimination faced by disabled people;
- To promote the inclusion and integration of recently established communities;
- To strengthen mother-tongue and supplementary schools to
- provide creative educational opportunities;
- To address new and emerging needs.

Who can apply

You will need to demonstrate that all the criteria below apply to your organisation. You must:

- benefit local people and communities in London;
- be run by volunteers or have paid staff that between them work no more than 35 hours per week. This may include full-time or part-time staff but does not include tutors who work sessional hours e.g. teachers at a supplementary school;
- have a high level of user involvement, including on your management committee;
- be undertaking charitable work, though you do not have to be a registered charity;
- have a constitution or a set of rules which governs your activities.

New funding guidelines for 2007-2011 are now available to download. If you cannot download the guidelines, printed copies are available from our offices (6 Middle Street, London EC1A 7PH). Please ring us on 020 7606 6145 for a copy or email info@cityparochial.org.uk. **The next closing date for proposals to be submitted is 25 October 2007.**

If you would like a summary of this information in community languages, or in other formats such as large print, Braille, or on disk, please contact Lambeth Regeneration and Housing Services on 020 7926 5555.

Spanish

Si desea esta información en otro idioma, rogamos nos llame al 0207 926 5555

Portuguese

Se desejar esta informação noutra idioma é favor telefonar para 0207 926 5555

French

Si vous souhaitez ces informations dans une autre langue veuillez nous contacter au

0207 926 5555

Bengali

এই তথ্য অন্য কোনো ভাষায় আপনার প্রয়োজন হলে অনুগ্রহ করে ফোন করুন

Twi

Se wope saa nkaeboy yi wo kasa fofo mu a fre 0207 926 5555

Yoruba

Tí ẹ ba fẹ imoràn yíí, ní èdè Òmiràn, ẹjẹ. ẹ kàn wà l'ágogo 0207 926 5555

Lambeth Peace Month 2007, 1 - 30 September



Do you want Peace on the Streets?

Want to show the community that you want change and want the violence to stop?

In September, Lambeth is coming together to honour and celebrate the diversity of the local community.

Take part in the month-long programme of events including:

- Get on board the Peace Bus tours to estates and schools in Lambeth
- Attend Community Safety Workshops
- Discussion on Guns & Crime
- Thought-provoking Drama
- Afterlife of Slavery Play
- International Day of Peace events
- Youth Oskars
- ... and much, much more.

Show support, show unity, get involved with Lambeth Peace Month – celebrate Peace on the Streets.

For further details email peacemonth@lambeth.gov.uk or visit lambeth.gov.uk/peaceonthestreets. See Diary section inside.

CONTACT US

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London SW8 2LL
Tel: 020 7926 2664

Webpage: www.lambeth.gov.uk/faithinlambeth

Alternatively, email Dinah-Mary at dmallotey@lambeth.gov.uk.