



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Trust Talk

Issue 4: August/September 2008

Welcome to 'Trust Talk', the newsletter which keeps you in touch with what's going on at Trust Thamesmead and in our community.

The summer months are traditionally known in the media industry as the 'silly season', chiefly because there is little hard news around, Parliament is in recess, the schools have broken up and many families take their annual holiday. All this means that the papers tend to struggle to fill their pages, but that is certainly not the case with Trust Talk!

Matthew Clarke Football Tournament

Just before the schools broke up Thamesmead Town Football Club hosted the Trust's annual football tournament for our local primary schools.

This year saw the 10th anniversary of the competition but it was the first time that the football club had played a major role in organising the event and their expertise and fantastic support meant it was the most successful event ever.

Special thanks go to club secretary Mark Lee and to Ferndale Foods for donating the food for the post match BBQ.



Winners Hawksmoor (front row) with runners-up Heronsgate

Last year's winners were Hawksmoor, so the heat was on for them to keep the shield...and they did; beating Heronsgate 2-0 in the final.

Festival Fever

The risk of rain didn't put off 15,000 people attending this year's Trust Thamesmead Community Festival in July.



It was a fantastic day which saw Thamesmead community groups turn out in force on stalls to raise awareness and money for their groups.

The Gallions' Hawaiian Beach was a huge success and attracted hundreds of young children throughout the day, not only on the beach and in the lagoons but on the donkey rides and bungee run too.

Whilst the Health Zone encouraged people to participate in Tai Chi, salsa and ballroom dancing as well as to try a range of alternative therapies.

The Sports Zone featured Thamesmead Town Football Club and Charlton Athletic Football Club and included demonstrations from local groups including Crossways Gym, Thamesmead School of Dance and the Archway Project, whilst the Children's Zone allowed children to have fun on the inflatables and land train.

The main stage this year featured eight T Factor contestants including the 2008 winners dance group Myztikal (pictured right) and X Factor hopeful Annastasia (below), the Blues Brothers Uncut and Hot Chocolate.



Headline act Moni Tivony aka Lionel Richie from BBC1's The One and Only really got the crowd going and finished off what was a positive, fun and successful day, not only for the Trust but the community too.

Visions of Thamesmead



The last issue of Trust Talk reported on the photographic project the Trust is undertaking with members of the Teenage Reading Group (TRG) who meet monthly at Thamesmead Library at Tavy Bridge.

The project, which is part of the research being undertaken in updating the book 'Thamesmead – Back to the Future', involved the young people taking images of

Thamesmead and the quality of the work was superb. Three photographs were chosen by the judges who were the book's author Dr Valerie Wigfall and professional photographer Paul Sanders.



The first prize was won by Jemma Singh (14), second prize went to Janice Koranteng (12) and the third prize winner was Ellen Vanden-Bossche (13). All three young photographers received high street shopping vouchers.

TRG members are now hard at work mounting an exhibition of their photographs which will go on display in Thamesmead Library and the reception area at Trust Thamesmead in the coming months. We will let you know when.

Good Choices Day

More than 100 community members and children attended Good Choices Day at the Arnott Community Centre in July. The event, just one of several healthy living initiatives organised by the Trust, was hosted by Arnott Pre-school and the Trust's community development department.

A wide range of local service providers gave out information about healthy eating, exercise, personal and community safety and leisure activities including Charlton Toy Library, a community dentist, the road safety team for Greenwich Council. The Moorings Safer Neighbourhood team, Gallions Housing Association wardens and Greenwich's community food co-op weekly fruit and vegetable stall. There was also a fun musical performance from the group Whippersnappers.

Positive comments were received from those who attended including: "the children learnt about eating more fruit and vegetables", and the day was "interesting, informative and enjoyable". The service providers welcomed the opportunity to network and learn more about other services in the area and share information.

Youth Leisure Zone

Throughout the summer the Trust has been holding a series of consultation workshops designed to get local residents' views on existing youth provision in the area and to find out what opportunities they would like to see at the Youth Leisure Zone, a project the Trust is working on at the Southern Arches under Harrow Manor Way.

One such consultation exercise took place at the Business Academy Bexley in Yarnton Way, attended by 150 young people and facilitated by the Trust's Community Development Manager Janice Songhurst-Jones.

"The workshop was engaging and fun," said Janice "There were three different activities: an interactive 'opinion poll', a 'storm shower' exercise and individual questionnaires to complete.

Form tutors attended the session and were very supportive, which gave me the opportunity to engage in discussions with individual young people, who were keen to express their views and concerns on a range of issues".

This was followed in late August by a parents' consultation evening which was delivered by Thamesmead Youth Voice, supported by Janice and Community Development Officer Sarah Feleppa.

Janice said: "Thamesmead Youth Voice delivered a presentation to local parents on the Youth Leisure Zone that outlined the initial feasibility study and the progression to date, including the main findings after consulting more than 500 local young people.

Janice added: “The information gathered from the parents in attendance will ultimately inform our funding bid with the added bonus that the event enabled both Sarah and me to engage with local residents and community champions on other issues such as community safety”.

One Stop Shop News

Following a successful meeting between the Trust’s Building Futures Project Manager Sharron Hawe and the Greenwich Children’s Information Service (CIS) , CIS will be delivering their service in the Trust’s reception area as part of our One Stop Shop from 5 September, delivering information regarding:

- Children’s centres, local SureStart programmes and extended schools
- Registered child-minders
- Nurseries
- Breakfast and after school clubs and holiday play-schemes
- Early education grants, tax credits and benefits
- Activities for under 5s
- Leisure activities and groups for young people
- Local and national family support services and groups
- Support for lone parents to assist their move towards work and training
- Support for young parents to access formal childcare

Thamesmead Fun Days



Throughout the summer a series of fun days have been taking place across Thamesmead, supported by the Trust, Gallions, Greenwich College and Extended Schools, and despite some unpredictable weather hundreds of parents, children and young people have been involved.

Alongside activities and advice sessions the events were notable for bringing together people from diverse backgrounds to sit and relax in a safe environment and get to know each other. For the Trust these events have provided a fantastic opportunity for us to build our relations with local people and initial feedback has been overwhelmingly supportive and generous in applauding the hard work of Trust staff. “

Children's Holiday Programme

A very successful holiday programme was held in Jubilee Community Centre in August. It followed the five themes of 'Every Child Matters' and was organised by Thamesmead Christian Fellowship and supported by the Trust.

More than 70 children aged 5-12 years old attended enjoying activities such as crafts, cooking, small group discussions and outdoor games ably supervised by volunteers.

At the end of the week each child received a photo of themselves, a certificate and a copy of the programme theme song. Discussions are now underway about joint activities with this group for Black History Month and the Family Learning Festival in October.

Birthday Party

The cAve is celebrating its 5th birthday by throwing a party on Saturday 4 October. The event, which will take place between 11:00am-6:00pm at The cAve, will include climbing sessions, a DJ, an arts and crafts table, giant games, face painting provided by the 5th Abbey Wood and Thamesmead Brownies and of course, a birthday cake, which will be cut at 1:00pm prompt.

The party is not only being held to celebrate the last five years at The cAve but to also raise awareness and encourage not only members but others to climb during the day's party, which we hope will make people want to return, not only as public climbers but as group members too.

For your Diary

If you would like any more information about the following events get in touch or check out the events section of our website: www.trust-thamesmead.co.uk

1-31 October	Black History Month in Thamesmead
1- 31 October	Family Learning Month in Thamesmead
4 October	Cave climbing wall 5 th birthday party

We hope you've enjoyed reading 'Trust Talk'. If you'd like to comment on any of the stories featured in this issue please contact the Editor Elaine Johnson. If you know of anyone who would like to be added to our circulation list please email: ejohnson@trust-thamesmead.co.uk