

Stay & Play drop-in sessions

new start in March '18

We are re-introducing the Stay and Play sessions on Monday 12th March at their regular venue, our Roupell Park Community Centre, in partnership with the Treehouse Nursery. The sessions provide with an opportunity for parents and their toddlers to enjoy play through a variety of toys, games and books, and learn how to interact with other children, and will continue to be held every Monday from 10am until 12pm. The end of each session normally ends with a sing along; music is a fabulous teaching tool and a source of joy for both kids and families.

The Stay and Play sessions rely largely on the availability of our community volunteers. If you think that you could contribute to the overall running of the sessions, then please contact Eva Christmas on 07983 584 767. Voluntary work will increase your employment capacity and will be a positive addition to your Curriculum Vitae (CV), a summary of your employment to date and skills.

For more info about the children centre services, or to enquire about a place in the nursery, please contact Angela on 0208 674 2186.



Roupell Youth Forum will celebrate its first anniversary in March 2018. Members have their say about the type of outings they want to and how the budget is spent. Since its launch, the forum has had 11 monthly meetings and 4 outings of their choice as well as a special Christmas treat outing to Nando's at the O2 at end of Dec' 17.

The next youth forum meeting will be held on 5th April at the RPCC hall, in which we are inviting new members to join the group. There are many incentives. Each meeting ends with a food of YP's choice; usually the vote is for pizza.

The Board is very interested in getting young people involved in the decision making process and being part of the Forum is a step forward in achieving this. Young people have nominated their representatives at the official Board meetings and have attained representation on the wider Lambeth Commissioning Group. This is just one of the ways in which Roupell Park invests in the future Board members, helping them to reach their full potential by providing them with positive experiences.

Friday Football with Fulham FC



These free drop-in football sessions are taking place every Friday from 5 – 7.00pm at our 5-a-side football pitch and are for boys and girls from 9 – 16/17 years of age. Repeatedly high attendance shows not just a demand and appetite for sport from our young people but also points to a high standard in the quality of the sessions, so YP keep coming back to play.

For those who may be more competitive, monthly tournaments are being held at Fulham's grounds, but you have to be invited by the sessions coach.

All sessions are FREE of charge, but parents do have to sign a one-off consent form for their child. **For more info about the sessions, please contact Paul Smithers on 07500 108495.**

After School Club Study Support.

If your child is 7 – 12 years of age, then he or she qualifies for a free tuition in Numeracy, Literacy and Science, right here on your doorstep. The sessions take place every Wednesday and Thursday from 5 – 7.00pm at our Roupell Park Community Centre. Apart from academic results, there are noted improvements in goal setting, team working and life and social skills. It is often the case that the same children are attending the half-term extra curricula activities, such as paintballing, bicycle workshops and similar, as they find out first-hand what's happening and they don't shy away from groups. Unsurprisingly, children with regular attendance show better progress, as is often noted and commented upon at school. **For more info, please contact Christian on 07706 179 851 or to apply just drop in at one of the sessions.**

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

Twitter: @rouPELLpark

Facebook: RoupellPark

Our opening times are:

Monday 8.30 - 17.00

Tuesday 9.00 - 17.00

Wednesday 9.00 - 13.00 (office closed in the afternoon for staff training, but phones will be answered)

Thursday 8.30 - 17.00

Friday 9.00 - 16.00

This is Your Community Newsletter



March 2018, Number 16

Making good internal defects works to tenanted property

Good News at last!

After very lengthy negotiations, we are able to announce that we have at last reached an agreement with the Council to ensure that any defects arising from the works carried out to tenanted property by Wates and Lambeth are finally identified and rectified.

We will start the process during February '18, with another round of inspections, with works to property starting at the beginning of April. We expect the project to run through until late July.

I am glad to say that Roupell Park will be managing this programme and will be leading on making appointments for inspections and works and we will be closely involved in agreeing what work needs to be done and then ensuring that it is done to an acceptable fit for purpose standard.

We know that this has been a frustrating time for many of you but this is now our chance to sort this out once and for all.

We will need to inspect properties to identify what works need to be done, including a check on 20% of all

electrical installations to ensure that they meet the required standard.

Our aim is to ensure that appointments for the inspections and works are made at a time that is convenient to you. However, I need to emphasise that this is the only opportunity we will have to deal with these problems and we will therefore need your co-operation in allowing us to do the work.

We will make sure that everyone affected is kept informed throughout the process.

Simon Oelman, Director.

New gardening project at Hyperion House!

We waited until the end of External works to kick start the creation of community garden, at the former toddlers. We want to be working with you on this exciting project and we will be holding a series of consultation meetings at the RPCC hall, in which the landscape gardener will take your suggestions forward and will produce a series of presentation slides to reflect your inputs. We will then use this at the final consultation phase. This is your chance to be part of the creative process and to participate in changing the landscape of Roupell Park!

Please watch out for the date of the first meeting, to be announced in the next few weeks. For any more information or to volunteer, please ring Eva on 07983 584767.

CCTV

Residents have been asking for some time for CCTV to be installed on the estate. We are glad to say that we have now agreed a contract for this to happen and a system will be in place all across the estate by the end of May '18.

This will be a state of the art system able to take high quality pictures of the perpetrators of anti-social behavior, including dumping rubbish across the estate, in any light and at any time of day.



To all bike stand users ...

We have had a few instances recently, where bike storage users having gone to secure their bike in their allocated stand, have found that another user had placed their bike there instead. Please show consideration to your neighbour by using your designated bike stand only. We are also coming across bikes chained to gas pipes which poses an unacceptable H&S risk to the block, and too many bikes being stored that we did not allocate to the user.

One bike stand should only hold one bike so please store your bike as per the agreed allocated space that you have made with Roupell Park Community Office. The Housing Officers will now be doing monthly inspections of all bike storage rooms on the estate. Any bikes we come across chained to pipes or overcrowding the bike store, will have their locks broken and the bikes removed without notice. Bike storage spaces are for bikes only. Additionally, any other items found in the bike stores will be removed without notice.

If you have any concerns, are experiencing these issues or want an allocated bike space, I will do my best to help and advise. Please contact me by email: rjones@lambeth.gov.uk or telephone on 020 7926 0214. Rosaleen Jones, Customer Services Manager.

Senior Citizens COFFEE MORNING Group

A group of 10+ senior citizens meet weekly on Tuesdays at our Roupell Park Community Centre from 10.30am until 12.30pm for a cuppa and a cake, but most of all for a chat and a get together. The group members are very much looking after each other, and are prepared to help one another beyond the restriction of a coffee morning session. I often encourage other elderly residents to attend the session, even if it is just a one off, as this is how it started for some of the residents who have now become loyal members. Even if this is not the case, at least you know that you have given it a go!



Upcoming courses: Improving literacy and/or learning English as a second language

Literacy Course Many adults are reluctant to admit that their literacy is not up to standard and do not want to ask for help. Nevertheless, admitting that you might need help is the only way to improve and hone your skills. Benefits ahead are numerous: in time you will become more independent in various tasks such as: communicating with your GP, assisting your children in their homework and dealing with official letters, all independently. As a result, it may well improve your self-esteem.

ESOL Course It is equally isolating not being able to speak and communicate fully in the language spoken in the country of your residency. If English is not your native tongue, and you need help with speaking and writing, then we can help you as well.

If you think that these courses apply to you, then please come to the **Assessment Day on Thursday, 22 March**. Literacy assessment will be from 10am until 12pm and **ESOL** (English as a second language) assessment from 12.30 – 2pm. The teachers will be able to assess allocate an appropriate course level suitable to your needs. Both courses will be free of charge to you, regardless of your income or if you are claiming benefit.

If you know someone who would profit from this course please bring them along. You could change a life for the better. For more information, please ring Eva on 07983 584 767.

The IT Course for beginners – reserve your space now!

The IT Course for beginners, which is run via Morley College, is now taking place every Wednesday from 12 – 2pm at our RPCC. Each participant is working towards the accreditation from Level 1 up to Level 3, depending where they are at with their existing IT skills.

As this course has already been oversubscribed, we are now taking names from all those who may be interested in future courses. In that way we'll ensure that you don't miss out and, at the same time, it will help us to estimate demand. **Please ring Eva on 07983 584 767 to express your interest! All ages are welcome.**

FELT MAKING COURSE

In partnership with Morley College, the course has already started but there is still room for more residents to join in. The course takes place every Tuesday from 1-3pm at our RPCC and is open to all, but primarily the elderly and/or housebound who might want to develop a hobby in craft making on their door step! Making felt out of strings of wool is a surprisingly sensuous and creative way to pass the time. To top it all off, it gives you a chance to furnish your life/home with beautiful and unique felt objects made by you! Being creative generally improves self-esteem, sharpens brain function and relaxes us, which can lead you to a healthier, happier lifestyle.

The course is totally free of charge to you. All equipment is provided by the course tutor, so all you have to do is bring yourself! For more info, please ring Eva on 07983 584767. The course finishes mid-April 2018.



Best way to beat the winter blues is to engage in a sports activity of your choice and, for the elderly, **yoga chair exercise** makes a perfect choice. The sessions are designed as drop-in sessions and they take place every Friday from 11am until 12pm at RPCC hall. The sessions consist of gentle stretching and breathing techniques, designed to improve posture and support the spine, with some variation to maintain interest. Although gentle, they are still effective and could help you maintain or improve movement. At the very least, exercise will slow down deterioration, typical of growing older!

All you have to do is turn up – our lovely tutor Gurpreet will make you feel welcome if you are a new member. For more info call Gurpreet on 07791 640914.

Communal area to be kept clear

Further to the Director's letter of 16/01/18, about fire safety compliance and the urgent need for residents to keep the communal area outside their front door clean and clear, we are appealing to all residents that they:

Remove mats from outside their front doors; If you require a mat, then place it on the inside of the front entrance door to your home.

Remove all hanging baskets, brackets, and any pots from outside your homes,

in order to keep the area clear. Recently, we had two accidents that have caused injuries to the persons involved, but luckily, with no serious damage.

We'd like to thank the residents who have already removed all mats from their front doors and/or pots and plants or any other objects. Unfortunately, there are some residents who refuse to do so and we are left with no option, but to remove and dispose of these

items ourselves, which we will continue to do so in the future.

It is in your interest to keep your home safe so that if there ever is a fire, all residents can evacuate the building safely, without obstruction or hindrance and that the risk of severe damage and injuries is kept to a minimum. We'd like to thank you for your cooperation in ensuring not just your own safety, but the safety of others.

Reporting repairs via e-mail



Residents can report repairs to RPRMO in a variety of ways: via telephone, in person or by e-mail. When residents e-mail to request repairs would you please ensure that you include your address and not just your first name. This assists us to process your repair in a timely manner and to the service standard.

If you recycle, please do so responsibly

We all must play our share in responsible recycling, to keep our planet and environment as clean and healthy as possible and to avoid from further damage.

Unfortunately, some of our residents are regularly placing general rubbish in the green paladin bins – the recycling bins. When general rubbish is added to the recycle bin, it contaminates it and it can then no longer be recycled. The amount of household rubbish being rejected for recycling in England has increased by 84% over the past four years, and Lambeth is no exception to this. If you know of individuals/households who recycle irresponsibly or contaminate recycling bins deliberately, then please report to your housing officer or at office reception, and the appropriate action will be taken.



CONTENTS INSURANCE FOR YOUR HOME

I wish to take this opportunity to remind residents that under the tenancy and lease terms and conditions the resident is responsible for internal decorations to their home. Unfortunately in blocks of flats there can be leaks from neighbours above and although a leak may not be your fault, it remains **your** responsibility to deal with any damage to your property following a leak. The most effective way to deal with this situation is to take out contents insurance (Block Building Insurance is in place via the Freeholder Lambeth Council). I would recommend that all residents take out contents insurance to protect their homes and in that way minimise the risk of an unexpected cost.

RPRMO are not responsible for redecoration works following leaks or damage to the contents of your home.

Rubbish chutes, if blocked, could face closure for good.

It has been noted that some residents are placing large inappropriate items in the rubbish chutes, which causes blockages. It is important to wrap rubbish in small parcels and not to put large items such as pizza boxes down the chutes, as they may jam it. It is important to take large items to the bin room and not to leave them by the chutes. Blocked rubbish in the chutes is unhygienic; it adds unnecessarily to the workload of our staff and causes a nuisance.

It is important that you use chutes appropriately so that we can keep them operational. If residents continue to abuse the chutes, then we will be left with no option but to consult residents with a recommendation to seal and close off the chutes permanently.