

JULY 2016/ ISSUE 09

PRIDE

You are warmly invited to come and celebrate our annual Pride celebration this Friday 1st July from 12.30pm. This year, for the first time the event is being held at Isledon Hub, and the Mayor of Islington, Counsellor Kat Fletcher, will be opening the celebration.

There will be great food on offer. A hot and cold buffet serving a selection of Caribbean dishes - chicken, curries, patties and salads. Vegetarian options will be available. There will be mocktails and a huge Pride cake. For entertainment, we will have a DJ, dancing, and karaoke. We will be holding our traditional PRIDE's Got Talent Competition, so please come along, take part and strut your stuff. This could be a song, a dance, a poem, a joke, a story, anything! There are prizes for the best acts.

Before we set free rainbow coloured balloons at the end, we will hold a minute's silence for the victims of the Orlando massacre. We will also dedicate a special balloon to the late MP Jo Cox, who was killed whilst dedicating her life to serving others.

If you are new to PBHA, please don't feel you need to be LGBT to take part. PBHA's Pride is a most inclusive event, and EVERYONE is welcome! So come along, be yourself and celebrate Pride with



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Sofia welcomes visitors to the Open Garden Squares weekend at Clissold Community Garden

CEO Update



Hello everyone
My article this newsletter is focusing on all the changes which are happening across your housing services. I want to reassure you that we are 100% committed to you living successfully in

a PBHA property until the time is right for you to move on.

There are considerable changes for many tenants who Peter Bedford HA supports to maintain their flats as we move to a new way of funding that advice and housing management. Both the London Boroughs of Hackney and Islington have significantly less money to fund our services, and this means that PBHA's support services are ending for many of you, especially those of you who have been supported tenants for over two years. However, we are clear that we want to continue to assist you to keep your housing and want to help you to live successfully in your homes, finding move on at the right point for you.

These changes are happening earlier in Hackney than Islington. We expect the new Enhanced Housing Management services to be in place by the end of September in Hackney, and in Islington by the end of March next year. While we move to the new housing service, if you have any concerns or questions please do contact **Vanessa Morris** at Kingsland Hub. We are aiming to make these changes as smooth as possible.

While this is happening, we are also making changes to our repairs service. This is advance warning that some changes will start in August 2016. We will write to you with details as soon as we have them.

I appreciate that this change may be difficult for many of you, we are here to help make this as problem free as possible and are always available to answer your questions and reassure.

Warm wishes
Clare

Creative Industries Showcase

Everyone has been really busy, with participants often working late, in preparation for a Creative Industries Showcase at Kingsland Hub on 29th June. There is excitement in the air as participants help each other to make their art and designs as beautiful as possible.

There are stunning purses from the textile group, funky, and professional stationery from the mixed media and illustration class. Other exhibits on display are from the Intro to Drawing and painting, joinery and creative crafts groups. Mocktails and light refreshments available.

I'm sure everyone will be wowed by the phenomenal skill and talent that will be on display. Full details appear later in this publication. All Welcome. All Included. I hope to see you there.

Orla O'Flanagan



Purses from the Textile Group

Open Garden Squares Weekend at Clissold

Open Squares is a London-wide initiative that opens private gardens and squares to members of the public for one weekend a year. For the past four years, Clissold Community Garden has been included in the official brochure.

This year was a great success with over 130 visitors to the garden over the weekend of 18th and 19th June. There were delicious home-made cakes for sale, plants, bulbs and the opportunity to pick and weigh your own fruit and vegetables.

Feedback from the public was hugely positive, many of whom were neighbours who had no idea there was such a space in their area.

Many thanks to the volunteer tenants, participants and staff who helped make the weekend run smoothly.



A Tenants Perspective

Our annual June event, when the garden is open to the public is over and am trying to sum it up.

Mike Havard has been organizing it this year, and his approach was easy going and relaxed. He was at the gate most of the time, inviting people in.

Many neighbours came, and many children,

and I was surprised how complementary everybody was about the garden. The children entertained themselves with each other and on the swings; I wonder if we could organize something more specifically for them next year (thinking caps on).

Kathryn produced her usual display of cakes and muffins and people sat and relaxed in the peace of the garden. It was good talking to so many people with a shared interest, giving and receiving tips, and connecting. Three people said they would like to come and help us; I hope some of this will materialize. I am sorry that Patrick, who worked really hard to make the place look good for the event, was not able to be there. And am grateful to all that worked hard to make this event possible, staff and our team; and especially Nigel who was there with us until the very end.

A veil of sadness that now Sam, who did so much to make the garden look as it does now, is leaving. We thank him and wish him well. He will be sorely missed.

The test is to see if the garden team will hold without him.

By Precious Martini-Brown



Seaside Trip to Hastings

At the PBHA Forum, you voted to go to the historic resort of Hastings for this year's annual seaside trip.

We will be travelling on Friday 22nd July, leaving London at 9am. The trip costs £10, and this includes the cost of your seat and a picnic lunch.

There is a booking form at the back of this newsletter. You need to hand in the form with your £10 fee to Kingsland Hub Reception. If you have any difficulties getting to Kingsland Hub, please speak to your Support Worker or get in touch with Mandy on 07776 769632.



Due to parking restrictions at Kingsland Hub, the meeting point will be outside our old haunt at Legard Works. The coach will leave at 9am sharp, so **please be at Legard Road for 8.45am** to make sure you don't miss out!

We should arrive at Hastings at 11.30am. There will be toilet facilities on the coach. We plan to arrive back in London by 6.30pm.

The coach seats 50, so make sure you book early to avoid disappointment!

Farewell to Arinola



Tuesday's Creative Craft group helped organise a tenants and participants farewell to Arinola Oladejo on 26th April at the Workshop at Geffrye Street.

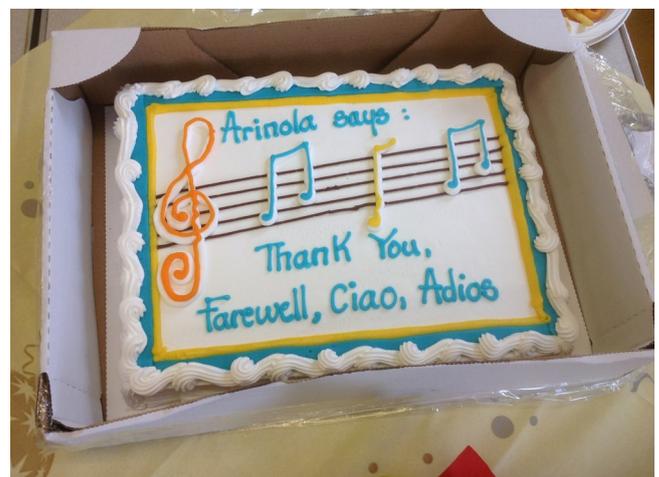
Arinola, who worked at PBHA for ten years, was recognised for her commitment and hard work over cake and refreshments .

Participants felt sad to see her go, with several offering words of thanks for her support and encouragement over the years.

The joinery group made a special table for Arinola, and all participants signed underneath it to serve as a really good reminder of their respect and appreciation of her hard work.

Staff also paid tribute to Arinola for being PBHA's most stylish colleague!

Good Luck and All The Best for your future, Arinola!



Communal Garden Maintenance

The monthly maintenance of shared gardens in Hackney and Islington is scheduled to take place on the last Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of each month from June until September. An additional visit will be scheduled to deal with the Autumn leaf fall in October or November, date TBC.

The gardeners will be issued with keys to access communal gardens, and will carry out the following schedule of works:

- Cut grass in back gardens
- Trim back all shrubs in front and back gardens
- Trim overhanging plants from paths in front and back gardens
- Weed and spray front and back gardens
- Sweep up and clear away all leaves
- Sweep up and clear away all grass/plant cuttings
- Litter pick front garden

If you have any queries regarding the work, please contact the Property Team on the repair line number 0203 815 4123 from 10am to 5.30pm, Mondays to Fridays.



Your Contributions Needed

We are always looking for your contributions to this newsletter. This could be an article, poem, photograph, or even an advert. Maybe you have something you want to buy or sell, or know about a good event that you would like to share. If you have an article, please contact Mandy Mansfield on 07776 769632 or email mandy.mansfield@peterbedford.org.uk.



Healthy Herbs Workshop

As part of Adult Learning Week, and in partnership with The Learning Trust, PBHA hosted a Healthy Herbs Workshop recently. The workshop included a trip to The Curve Garden at Dalston to identify local herbs that can be used for cooking and medicinal purposes.

Back at the workshop there was a quiz to guess what the different herbs looked like.



Did you know?

Basil is good for increasing appetite, healing cuts and scrapes

Lavender helps calm and relax, it eases pain when applied to cuts and bruises as well as being an anaesthetic.

Lemon Balm helps decrease anxiety, is good for insomnia and upset stomach.

Parsley is nutrient rich, is good for bad breath and flatulence (!)

New Staff Appraisals - Your feedback needed!

PBHA has introduced a new appraisal system for staff. Staff appraisals are held once a year, and measure performance, competencies and areas for improvement and training.

You may receive a letter or telephone call, asking you to give feedback for a staff appraisal. If you agree, you will be given statements about a member of staff who you know and have worked with. You will be asked how much you agree or disagree with the following statements, as well as give any feedback in the 'comments' section.

- Does what they have agreed to do
- Tries to resolve issues positively
- Explains things clearly
- Is professional and knowledgeable in their role.
- Promotes in their work PBHA's aim of tenants and participants supporting each other and leading services
- What I'd like you to do more of...
- What I'd like you to do less of...

Please be as honest as you can, as any feedback you give will be anonymous. Your views are important to us and will be integral to the appraisal process in future.



Enhanced Housing Management Drop-Ins

You may be aware that a number of tenants are moving from the existing support structure to an Enhanced Housing Management framework over the coming months.

A new Enhanced Tenancy Sustainment Assistant, Ifeoma Mokah, has been appointed to work with 25 tenants in Hackney.

Ifeoma will be holding weekly drop-in sessions for those tenants to discuss any concerns about their property, health and safety, repairs or complaints.

Drop in times

Monday 2pm-4pm at Kingsland Hub

Tuesdays 2pm-4pm at Clissold Hub.

You do not need an appointment. You can contact Ifeoma on 07776 769644

You Said.. We Did..

You asked for an IT Drop-in at the Isledon Road Hub.

Drop-ins run each Wednesday from 2.30pm to 5.00pm.

You wanted us to deal with Antisocial Behaviour more quickly.

We have introduced Licence Agreements for short term tenants to help us deal with problem behaviour more swiftly.

You asked for more health based support. **We piloted a personal development peer support group. Due to its success more are planned in the near future.**

You asked for CCTV at certain properties along Isledon Road.

CCTV was installed earlier this year.

Please keep your comments and suggestions coming as we value your feedback.

Profusion Exhibition at Outpost

Cecil Nurse is an artist from Stoke Newington, a tenant of Peter Bedford Housing Association, and a participant in our Creative Industries Supporting Makers programme. Cecil's exhibition successfully opened at Outpost on 16th June. Called Profusion, it is a multi-sensory immersive environment, created in an art studio in his living room. A solo-exhibition comprising of abstract illustrations that explore fluid mark-making, colour, form and composition, alongside reworked drink cans and tins, transformed into a complex system of number-based patterns and sculptures.



A selection of Cecil's artwork

It looks spectacular with colourful abstract illustrations bursting onto the walls. We've had some great feedback from visitors so far and hope to sell some of his artwork. Please go along and have a look. The exhibition is open until 30th July.

Outpost – Shop! Arts! Community Hub
546 Holloway Road,
Islington N7 6JP

Licence Agreements

At the PBHA forum we've been discussing the kind of agreements we use when people come to live at PBHA. AS of 1st June 2016, people moving in to our supported properties will be issued with Licence Agreements rather than tenancies.

Why have PBHA brought in this change?

When we offer supported housing it's on a short term basis and people are expected to move on within 2 years. Licences help us move people in and out more quickly. It's particularly helpful when there are difficulties in the placement that can't be resolved.

What's the difference?

Licence agreements are easier to bring to an end. Both residents and PBHA have the same responsibilities as in tenancies to look after the property and act in a neighbourly way.

What about current tenants?

No current tenancies will be affected.

Isledon Canteen - Cost of Meals Increase

From August 1st, the cost of a meal at Isledon will go up from £2.50 to £3.00. Every six weeks a special themed meal, e.g. Irish, Caribbean, Chinese etc. will be on offer. The special themed meal will usually be offered on a Saturday and will cost £3.50 for a main course and desert.



Happy 70th Birthday, Precious!

At the Forum last week, tenants, participants and staff celebrated Precious's 70th birthday with a surprise cake.

Precious has been a Peter Bedford tenant for over 30 years. She has been an active volunteer in the Clissold community garden, is a member of the PBHA Tenant's Committee, regularly attends Forums and is always available to help out generally within the Peter Bedford Community.

Precious is a role model to us all. With a healthy lifestyle, she does not drink or smoke, and does not eat meat or sugar. Precious cycles everywhere and gardens

on almost a daily basis. Congratulations, Precious, for reaching 70 so gracefully, and thank you for all your hard work and contributions over the years.



(Above) Precious receiving an award at the opening of Kingsland Hub last year with Speaker of Hackney Sade Etti and Chair of the Board, Andy Love

A flyer for a Creative Industries Showcase event. The flyer has a colorful, abstract background with black outlines. The text on the flyer includes: "Creative Industries Showcase", "Join us for an afternoon of art, music and workshops at PBHA's Kingsland Hub to celebrate a year of creative and exciting work from our fine art, wood work, craft, textiles and Supporting Makers programmes. All welcome, all included.", "Wednesday 29th June 2016", "3-5 pm", and "RSVP" in a circular graphic. To the right of the flyer is a map of the Kingsland Hub area, showing streets like Haggerston Rd, Lee St, Scriven St, Dunston St, Dunston Rd, and Laburnum Street. A yellow star marks the Kingsland Hub location. Below the map is the address: "Kingsland Hub, 242 Kingsland Rd, London E8 4DG". Above the map is the Peter Bedford Housing Association logo and contact information: "RSVP", "William.Lee@peterbedford.org.uk", "P: 020 3815 4100", "W: peterbedford.org.uk".

what's cooking
at Clissold?



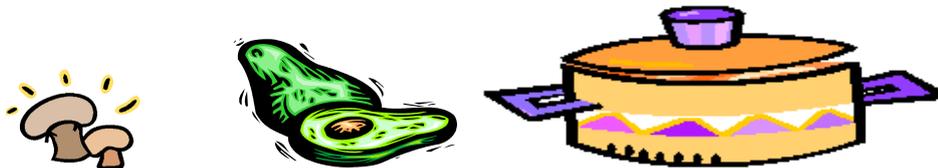
-depends...
on how does the garden grow... Come and find out, watch,
muck in, learn, share, enjoy!



Flavours of the month: kale, chard, chicory, garlic
chive...we are looking forward for summer crops of parsley, cucum-
ber, tomato and other salad vegetables and soft fruit



but no, we do not eat only hay like horses, there is some shop-bought
stuff, too, to combine with the garden
produce to make a tasty meal

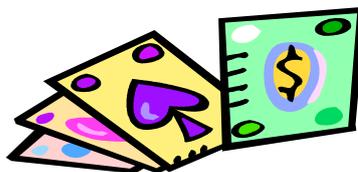


Any Peter Bedford tenant or participant welcome!
FREE

Saturdays 4pm - 8pm, just turn up
NO ALCOHOL, NO DRUGS, NO RUDENESS, NO DIRTY HANDS
- JUST PEOPLE AND FOOD



-and a game of cards after



Poster designed and
submitted by Henu, PBHA
Participant

Seaside Trip to Hastings

Friday 22nd July 2016

Booking Form



Name _____

Mobile Phone No. _____

Packed Lunch Order - Please tick

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| White Bread | <input type="checkbox"/> | Brown Bread | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tuna Sweetcorn plain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tuna Sweetcorn Salad | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cheese and Tomato | <input type="checkbox"/> | Cheese, tomato and salad | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Chicken mayo plain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Chicken mayo and salad | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bottle of water | <input type="checkbox"/> | Carton of fruit juice | <input type="checkbox"/> |

To book your place, please take this form with your £10.00 booking fee
to Reception at Kingsland Hub