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PARK NEWS

July 2020



THE PARK DURING LOCKDOWN

LLDC's Executive Director of Park Operations and Venues, Mark Camley, discusses the role of the Park during lockdown and the part it has to play in the future.

"Our last edition of Park News came at the height of lockdown, and while some things have changed a lot since then, we are still far from experiencing summer on the Park in the way we had got used to since 2014.

This has been most noticeable recently, with weekends that would've held some incredible events - Major League Baseball returning to London Stadium and, of course, the Great Get Together which has been growing bigger every year - passing without those activities and visitors.

Some things, however, are continuing as normal. Nature, unaffected by lockdown, rolls on and we've seen the season change on the Park with early spring buds turning into leaves and our summer floral displays of summer. This continues to provide a beautiful background for visitors' daily exercise and, as guidance changes, we've been proud to provide a meeting point for friends and families to come together after months apart.

For these reasons, and many more, parks have played an important role for their local communities over the

last few months. Recent research has shown that 60% of Londoners say they will continue to use their local green spaces more than they had before lockdown began, with many more recognising the benefits parks have had on their mental and physical wellbeing.

More work is going on that makes it easier to look beyond lockdown. East Summer School is back in an online format, offering an exciting programme of free courses to young people in the local area - delivered by world-leading organisations based with links to east London. This, along with all the construction safely continuing around the Park, helps remind us of the bright future there is for this place.

In the meantime, we hope you all get some time to enjoy the Park this summer in whatever way you can. While many of us might have had to cancel or change holiday plans, the 560 acres of parklands provides an opportunity to feel like we've escaped from city life - even if just for the afternoon.

It remains as important as ever to follow the government's social distancing guidelines, and we will continue to share this information around the Park - thank you for

continuing to make Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park your local park and enjoying it responsibly. It has been great to see people making the place their own and ensuring that the whole community could enjoy it safely - so that we could stay open to everyone for the duration of lockdown."

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Help shape the future of the Park: share your thoughts on the masterplans for Pudding Mill Lane and Bridgewater, the new neighbourhood planned at Pudding Mill. The consultation for these plans will be fully digital, so visit puddingmill.commonplace.is for the latest information and other ways to find out more and to have your say.

September's Your Neighbourhood Talks event will not go ahead, but we welcome any questions or comments on local issues and plans for the Park and its surrounding area by email at yourneighbourhoodtalks@queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk

LATEST INFORMATION

For all the latest information about the Park's facilities and safety measures, visit QueenElizabethOlympicPark.co.uk/Coronavirus

While events on the Park have been cancelled, football matches are taking place behind closed doors at London Stadium. On match days, Stadium island bridges and the West Ham store will be closed at present.

As of early July, many of our venues remain closed and others are operating at a reduced schedule - visit the website on the address above for the latest information.

The Last Drop is open for takeaway and the toilets at The Podium in the south of the Park and Timber Lodge in the north of the Park are open daily from 11am-6pm. To keep facilities safe to use, an increased cleaning schedule will be in operation.

Following the Government's guidelines around social distancing is vital for keeping the Park open and safe for everyone to enjoy. There's plenty of space to enjoy picnics with friends and family - in accordance to the latest Government guidelines, which will be reflected in signage around the Park - but BBQs are not allowed.



CONTINUING CONSTRUCTION SAFELY

All sites around the Park are now operational, although with additional safety and social distancing measures in place. This includes the installation of hand washing stations, one-way systems for moving around on sites and expanded working and welfare areas. To accommodate less personnel on site, operating hours have been increased on some sites to enable staggered start times and split shifts. You can see the most up-to-date operating hours below.



Photo: John Joe Burke

East Bank, Stratford Waterfront: 7am-10pm, Monday to Saturday

Chobham Manor: 7am-6pm, Monday to Friday (occasional Saturdays, 8am-1pm)

East Wick and Sweetwater: 8am-6pm, Monday to Friday / 8am-2pm, Saturday

East Bank, UCL East and East Bank, UCL East (Pool Street West): 7am-7pm, Monday to Friday / 7am-5pm, Saturday

PARK WORKS

We are also working closely with site operators to ensure that construction is able to continue safely around the Park. Here are some of the projects currently underway, along with any impact these may have on road closures:

- Works on Copper Street are now nearing completion, and the Hackney Bridge project is due to open in the autumn. We are working with TfL on the completion of Cycleway 6 which will run along Copper Street and into the north Park along the Eastcross Bridge.
- The irrigation system in the north of the Park that keeps the landscapes looking so great is due to be replaced this summer. Some temporary closures of paths will be necessary whilst this work takes place.
- Work on the new UCL East campus as part of East Bank continues and some parts of Pool Street and Thornton Street are affected. Please follow diversion signs when visiting this area of the Park.
- Work on the North South Highway linking London Stadium to Waterden Road has been delayed during the pandemic, and the road is now expected to open in phases from the autumn.
- Carpenters Road remains closed during the construction of East Bank.
- London Borough of Newham have put in place a new one way system in the Pudding Mill Lane area in the south of the Park.

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR SPACES AT HACKNEY BRIDGE

2020 looks set to be an exciting year for local creatives and small businesses, as Make Shift, the team behind Pop Brixton and Peckham Levels, will be opening their third project on the Park.

Now known as Hackney Bridge – the official name for what many locals may have known as Clarnico Quay during its construction phase – the project is a brand new canalside destination close to Hackney Wick, built on the former site of the Clarnico Sweet Factory. Hackney Bridge will offer workspace, studios, public facilities, events, markets, restaurants and bars, giving



local enterprises the space they need to thrive together. The site aims to launch in late 2020.

Applications are now open for a range of spaces, both large and small, suitable for all types of businesses. The spaces include light and airy artists' studios, light industrial units with access to a rear service yard, glass-fronted maker-retail units, food kiosks, private offices, a general store, cafe space and more.

Whether you are an aspiring entrepreneur, small business or creative looking for a new place to call your business home, Make Shift would love to hear from you!

To find out more or to apply, visit [Hackneybridge.org](https://hackneybridge.org) – here you can also book a one-to-one video call with a member of the Make Shift team to learn more about Hackney Bridge and how to apply.

DRIVING INNOVATION WITH NEW SMART MOBILITY PARTNER

This summer, we welcome a new partner to the Park – Smart Mobility Living Lab: London (SMLL). You may have seen contractors installing equipment onto lamp columns and signage going up. This has all been part of building the UK's most advanced testing environment for connected autonomous mobility (self-driving vehicles and services).

SMLL sees the creation of two scalable testing environments based around roads in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and in the Royal Borough of Greenwich. You can expect to see SMLL's branded autonomous vehicle driving around the Park (with a safety driver at the wheel) gathering data to enrich their virtual testing environment. If you see it on the road it means something exciting is going on!

To find out more about SMLL and what they have planned, visit SmartMobility.london



CREATIVE COLLABORATIONS HELPING LOCAL BUSINESSES DURING LOCKDOWN

While many local businesses and charities were struggling during lockdown, hundreds of people in the area with skills and experience in creative and digital industries were unable to work or on furlough. The Match, established by Echo, the skills-matching community in Hackney Wick, and Loughborough University London, aims to be a solution to this.

Local creatives can volunteer their time to help businesses within the community, whether it's building a more effective website, improving social channels or getting advice and support on fundraising. If you're looking to sign up, whether as a skilled volunteer or an organisation looking for free support, visit economyofhours.com/thematch/ to find out more.

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES



East Summer School is back – although naturally it looks a little different this year! In order to still provide young east Londoners with unique workshops and courses – while remaining as safe as possible – the free summer school will be moving online.

East London has long been known for its innovation and creativity, and we want to help the next generation of designers, engineers, artists and makers gain new skills and experiences while having fun along the way.

This year's programme includes short sessions, interactive workshops and longer courses in a range of areas such as coding, fashion, filmmaking, engineering,

EXCITING ONLINE PROGRAMME ANNOUNCED FOR FREE SUMMER SCHOOL



environmental sustainability and illustration. Sessions are led by world-renowned organisations with links to the Park, including the BBC, UCL, Staffordshire University London, Studio Wayne McGregor and the Yard Theatre.

These courses are free and open to all 12 -17 year olds living in Hackney, Newham, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest. If you're a young person living in the area and interested in learning something new while having fun this summer, visit QueenElizabethOlympicPark.co.uk/SummerSchool to view the full programme and apply for courses. Applications close on **Sunday 19 July** with courses starting on **Monday 27 July** – so sign up now!

WELCOMING THE NEW LEGACY YOUTH BOARD

The Legacy Youth Board plays a vital role in shaping the future of the area. We spoke to Kaitlene, the board's chair, about their success so far and the challenges ahead.

"2020 has been an unprecedented year for us all: the constraints of lockdown followed by the protests have united us all in our shared experiences. For the Legacy Youth Board, this has reinforced our commitment to continue to work, be it virtually, towards ensuring a sustainable legacy for our communities.

The Legacy Youth Board is made up and led by a dedicated group of 18-25 year olds, unified by a shared home in the host boroughs of Newham, Tower Hamlets, Waltham Forest and Hackney. We represent diversity in age, as well as ethnicity, gender and lived experiences, to bring an alternative perspective to the boardrooms that make crucial decisions for the future of the areas that have defined us.

After a successful pilot year, we can say that we have made some headway. In November 2019, we delivered the first Youth Conference on the Park, in partnership with the LLDC, Youth Charter and Unicef; gained Observer status for the LLDC Board, Investment, Planning and Regeneration committees and maintained a strong presence at Park Panel. Furthermore, we have fed into plans for the East Bank development, the Good Growth Hub & East Works which we look forward to continuing as the initiatives progress.



The new Legacy Youth Board have been continuing their work online from their homes. Meet Siroun (Newham), Tasmia (Waltham Forest), Mercy (Newham), Nayim (Tower Hamlets) and Nana (Hackney).

We've continued to work and grow with the recruitment of new members who bring a wealth of experience from their engagement within the local community as well as a fresh new perspective, enriching the Board's skill and reach.

2020 has been a different year to what we envisioned it to be, in some ways bringing us closer but while undoubtedly distancing us physically. The new normal, whatever it looks like, will bring new challenges for local young people and communities, and all of us at the Legacy Youth Board are excited and inspired to seize these opportunities to help our communities thrive as we continue to inspire a generation

Visit QueenElizabethOlympicPark.co.uk/LegacyYouthBoard to learn more about us and updates about our work."

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