

# Somers Town Community Newsletter

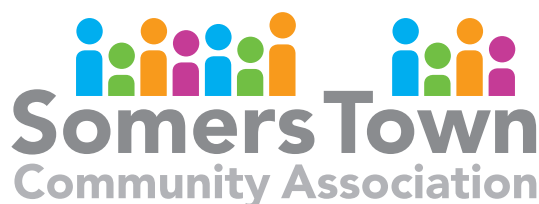
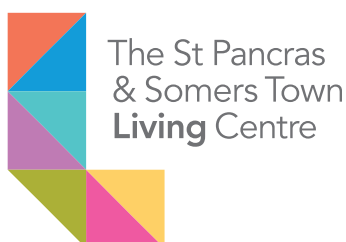
## STAY AT HOME STAY SAFE

As we enter a New Year we are confronted by a mountain to climb that is going to need us all to work together if we are to get over the mountain and down the other side. There is a saying that it is '**darkest before the dawn**' and it will for many feel that there is no end to this national and global crisis, but we are stronger together and if we stick to the rules and stay at home we will come through the other side.

Somers Town Community Association, The St Pancras and Somers Town Living Centre and our partners are here to help and whilst our doors it is true are not open at this time, our services are running on-line, over the phone and by appointment should that be necessary.

We are fully committed to working with the health services in Camden as they roll out the vaccination programme, which we fully support. We will be actively working with the health services to ensure clear and concise information about the vaccine is available to ensure fears and concerns are dealt with so that people feel confident about having the vaccine.

Whatever support, advice, guidance you may need, give us a call on **020 7380 0453** or email us at **info@thelivingcentre.org** and we will do all we can to help.



## LOCAL NEWS AND INFORMATION

### Community Centre of the Future – next steps

#### Somers Town Community Projects

##### Context

This project is based on the fact that the community of Somers Town has for decades clearly identified its own priorities; feeding into a million different consultations undertaken by a spectrum of stakeholders including Local Authority, VCS, Businesses and Developers.

Yet little if any of that community insight, knowledge has found its way into actual projects, let alone ones managed and delivered by the residents themselves.

As part of our Community Centre of the Future workshops and the huge amount of input and insights given by participants we are committed to ensuring those insights are not lost.

##### Intention

To pilot the creation of a formal mechanism by which locally identified, projects can be brought to life, managed and delivered by local residents and supported by a £10k budget committed jointly by STCA and the St Pancras and Somers Town Living Centre.

The mechanism will take the form of a forum although the term forum is not set in stone and will be the first decision along with the name made by the community representatives.

##### Representation\*

To ensure that the diversity of the local community is reflected representatives will be asked/requested/encouraged from:

- Older persons groups/clubs
- Young people groups/clubs
- Groups supporting those with disabilities
- Ethnic minorities (although it is expected that the other representatives will reflect the ethnic diversity of the community)
- Environmental groups
- Community activists inclusive of mutual aid groups
- LGBT forum
- Local history groups/clubs
- Faith groups

\* One representative per group and a named deputy; except for the faith groups as this will be expanded to be one per denomination. This group is not exhaustive, but to be functional the group really needs to stay below 15 members.

A Chair will be appointed by majority vote from the representatives at the first meeting and a minute taker will be appointed at each meeting, members of this group will have job descriptions and will be given training inclusive of safeguarding, first aid, fire marshal, data management, H&S, project management, M&E and budget management.

Member's attendance time at the forum meetings will be paid at the London living wage (anticipated max two hours per meeting) which recognises the value of their time.

More information will follow in our February newsletter. If you would like to know more then please email [sarah@somertown.org.uk](mailto:sarah@somertown.org.uk)

### GLOBAL GENERATION

Following the school closures and the new national lockdown, the Story Garden will stay open, but on reduced hours **Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 10am – 3.30pm.**

Growers can come and garden in their beds at any time on these days.

**The toilets will now be out of use for safety.**

Our aim is to always be open on these days throughout this lockdown, but this may change if anyone in the team gets covid or has to isolate, but we will do all we can to keep you updated on any changes and developments as soon as possible.

### ARE YOU A SMALL GROUP/ORGANISATION AND DO YOU NEED HELP/ADVICE?

Then email [jodie@somertown.org.uk](mailto:jodie@somertown.org.uk) or [joned@thelivingcentre.org.uk](mailto:joned@thelivingcentre.org.uk) and let us see how we can help, stronger together.

## LOCAL NEWS AND INFORMATION

### Somers Town Community Hub NOW OPEN...



**Somers Town Community Hub**



#### Connecting local people to essential services and each other

**Somers Town Community Association and Camden Mobile Food Bank are proud to be able to promote our new joint venture; The Somers Town Community Hub, located at Somers Town Community Association, 150 Ossulston Street, London NW1 1EE**

The Hub is supported by The St Pancras and Somers Town Living Centre, Phoenix Court, The Francis Crick Institute, Global Generation, Little Village, Origin Housing and Blind Aid and aims to ensure dignity and respect for those accessing the service.

It offers its users the opportunity to pick their own food, whilst also being able to access all of the support mechanisms that are available through the partners and our wider networks, food provided is all free of charge.

The Hub is now **OPEN** should you have any questions about how you can get involved or access the Hub, please email [info@thelivingcentre.org](mailto:info@thelivingcentre.org) or to self-refer go to <https://www.urbancommunityprojects.org.uk/referral-form>

### Overcoming barriers

**If you are struggling to overcome a particular challenge relating to employment or training, please get in touch and talk to us about it. We can often point you in the direction of an organisation or fund that can help you. This might mean:**



- Suitable clothing for a job interview
- Childcare costs while you attend an interview
- A license or accreditation that you need to get work
- Access to technology
- Advice on how to set up your own business
- Help with course fees so you can gain a qualification that will help you find employment
- Something else that isn't on this list!

If you are experiencing a barrier to finding work or training, get in touch. There is often more support available than you may realise, and we can help you to find and apply for it as needed.

We can also refer you to other local Camden organisations that can help you with other areas of your life such as managing your finances, staying mentally and physically healthy, understanding benefits, getting legal advice, and more.

The current COVID-19 pandemic does present challenges and opportunities for all of us, but we are here beside you to inspire, advise and support you as best we can, inclusive of help to create or update your CV, access to free training, find and apply for jobs, practice for interviews (inclusive of Zoom) and guidance/advice on applying for welfare and benefits.

Please call **07949 144 230** or email [jobhub@somertown.org.uk](mailto:jobhub@somertown.org.uk) to make an appointment to speak with us. We are working remotely, but can also organise a COVID-secure appointment if there is a reason you need to see somebody in person.

## LOCAL NEWS AND INFORMATION

# We are open...

### Camden Mobile Food Bank

Please visit [www.urbancommunityprojects.org.uk/stay-connected](http://www.urbancommunityprojects.org.uk/stay-connected) for more details.

### We Are Ageing Better

Jesse is currently working hard on a new timetable. For more details please contact [jess@weareageingbetter.org.uk](mailto:jess@weareageingbetter.org.uk)

### Somers Town Youth Programme

Has moved its programme online. Please contact [youth@somerstown.org.uk](mailto:youth@somerstown.org.uk) or follow on Twitter: [@stcayouthclub](https://twitter.com/stcayouthclub) and Instagram: [@stcayouthclub](https://www.instagram.com/stcayouthclub) for more details.



HM Government



## ENGLAND LOCKDOWN

# STAY AT HOME

THE NEW VARIANT OF CORONAVIRUS IS SPREADING FAST.  
WE ALL NEED TO PLAY OUR PART TO STOP THE SPREAD.

## HOW TO FIND US

The St Pancras and Somers Town Living Centre  
2 Ossulston Street, London NW1 1DF

Tel 020 7380 0453

email [hello@thelivingcentre.org](mailto:hello@thelivingcentre.org)

[www.thelivingcentre.org](http://www.thelivingcentre.org)

The Living Centre is supported by the Francis Crick Institute



The St Pancras  
& Somers Town  
Living Centre

