

# Somers Town Community Newsletter

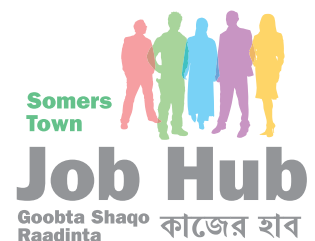
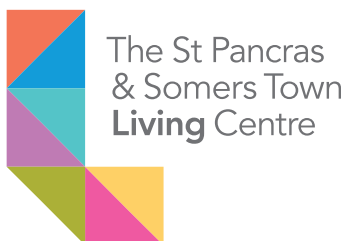


**What is COP26, what is Climate and Sustainability, what does an increase of 1.5 degrees in global temperature really mean and what can we do about any of this and indeed why should we?**

All really good questions and to be honest we can't say that we have the answers, but we have questions and that is what we all need to have. We need to have questions of ourselves, our leaders and those we give our money to through the purchases we make on-line, in shops and with businesses.

At Somers Town Community Association and The St Pancras and Somers Town Living Centre we have pulled together a 3 week programme of activities/workshops/panel discussions/film showings and tours starting on the 31st October that will help us all begin to ask the questions that the future of our planet depends on.

Please take a look inside this newsletter for the programme on offer, please share and above all ASK questions AND use your spending power to make real change.





# Environment & Climate COMMUNITY EVENTS

## WEEK ONE

**SEEING THROUGH MY LENS; NATURE IN HOMELESSNESS**  
**Sunday 31st October | 12pm-3pm | The Living Centre**  
We are all begining our climate journey from different spaces, places and circumstances. This pop up exhibition shares the perspective of some of those most vulnerable to climate change's direct impacts- homeless individuals. Join us in listening to their stories of living in a world which is violently changing around us every day.

**YOUTH SUMMIT**  
**Monday 1st November | 4pm-6pm | MAKE SPACE**  
Help us kick off our Climate Programme with a campefire evening at the MAKE Space. Over a hot chocolate and smores join the youth team for a range of climate quizzes and conversations before collecting tree wood and building the pledge tree which will be exhibited in the Living Centre and hold the climate pledges from all the community. What will your pledge be?

**THE ASSOCIATIONS PLEDGE \*centre team & board members only**  
**Monday 1st November | 4pm-6pm | The Living Centre**

What are our goals and how are we going to acheive them? During this session Somers Town Community Association & The Living Centre team will sit down and evaulate the associations current environmental impact and outline our pledge to the environment.

**TAKING CARE, USING LONGER**  
**Tuesday 2nd November | 11:30am-1pm | The Living Centre**

An astonishing 30% of our clothings carbon footprint occurs once the item is in the care of its owner, and whilst we may not have as much control over its manufacturing or even the farming of its basic materials - how can we ensure we're doing the most to decrease the impact of our clothes on the planet once we have bought them, how can we care for them so that they last for as long as possible?

Join us in sharing tips and tricks on caring for clothing and in the creation of a zine to be shared among the local community.

**RE-IMAGINING BLACK FUTURISM IN TIMES OF CLIMATE CRISIS**  
**Wednesday 3rd November | 1pm-3pm | The Living Centre**

Ama Josephine Budge Johnson and Janine Francois are friends, peers, colleagues who have formed radical and loving kinship will be in-conversation with each other exploring, reflecting and dreaming on the importance of Black Futurism as a possible strategy to address the climate crisis we all found ourselves. Drawing on their lived experiences, research, writing and family biographies, Janine and Ama will offer thoughts from the very practical to the very radical in how we address climate crisis.

**COULD NATURE HAVE RIGHTS? WITH SOMERS TOWN LEGAL ADVICE CORNER**  
**Wednesday 3rd November | 10am-12pm | The Living Centre**

Most people have heard of human rights, but have you ever considered that nature could have rights too? Join us in this workshop to learn about the emerging field of rights of the environment and how this can help shape a more sustainable future.



**To sign up to a session or to make an enquiry please email...**  
[climateexhibition@thelivingcentre.org](mailto:climateexhibition@thelivingcentre.org)

**CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE COMMUNITY WITH LENDLEASE**  
**Wednesday 3rd November | 1pm-3pm | The Living Centre**

This workshop will take you through a whistle stop masterclass on the basics of climate change science. We will identify tangible solutions that the built environment and communities can offer to help prevent climate change, and prepare for its potential impacts.

**EXTINCTION REBELLION DEBATE LED BY STCA KICKSTARTERS**  
**Wednesday 3rd November | 4pm-6pm | The Living Centre**

Greta Thunberg is one of the most prolific climate actvists of our generation. How does she do it we may think? Greta simply makes a stand and uses her voice. Join our youth team in exploring how you feel about different forms of activism and what kind of activist you would like to be. Whether it is simply educating your friends and family or signing up to Extinction Rebellion- this session provides the space to consider how we may use our voices to better our future.

**URBAN FARMING 101 WITH GLOBAL GENERATION**  
**Thursday 4th November | 10am-12pm | The Living Centre**

Do you have a broken plant pot? An empty yoghurt pot? Maybe even an egg carton? Whilst recycling these items is one option- how about coming along to this session and putting these currently useless items to good use! Join us in a discussion and workshop exploring what we can really grow in urban environments- how we can grow produce, add oxygen to the air and make our spaces greener all in one go.

**CLIMATE FRIENDLY FOOD SWAPS**  
**Thursday 4th November | 2pm-4pm | The Living Centre**

Come along and try a variety of climate friendly dishes and join us in a discussion about the food we cook and the small changes we might be able to make to help the environment- whether it is replacing a meat meal for a veggie meal one day a week, or utilising alternative ingredients. Join us in considering not only the environmental impact but the nutritional benefits too.

**DRESS IN PROTEST: CHALLENGING THE STATUS QUO WITH BIRDSONG**  
**Friday 5th November | 4pm-5:30pm | The Living Centre**

Co-founders of ethical fashion brand Birdsong reflect on 7 years since beginning their brand and revisit the reasons they decided to challenge the status quo then but more importantly why we should continue to challenge the status quo now.

Whether you're a budding entrepreneur, a passionate climate and ethics activist or merely looking to understand the sustainability space and why it's so important this talk will provide you with the urge to be the change.

**MADE IN BANGLADESH FILM SCREENING**  
**Saturday 6th November | 2pm-4pm | Somers Town Community Centre**

Shimu, 23, works in a clothing factory in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Faced with difficult conditions at work, she decides to start a union with her co-workers.Despite threats from the management and disapproval of her husband, Shimu is determined to go on. Together the women must fight and find a way.

STCA | MAKE | LIVING CENTRE Ossulston St, Somers Town, London NW1

# Environment & Climate COMMUNITY EVENTS

## WEEKS TWO & THREE

**LIVE CONVERSATIONS; MOBILISING OUR VOICES**  
**Monday 8th November | 1pm-3pm | The Living Centre**

Come along to a panel discussion led by recent graduates who are driven by sustainability. Listen to their discussions about how studying in design has influenced them and why the drive to design with a conscious mind is so integral to our future. Discussion will be followed by a Q&A session.

**WILD DRAWING WORKSHOP WITH BRYONY BENGE-ABBOTT**

Explore the natural world with new eyes as we experiment with embodied drawing using pencils, ink and found materials. Materials supplied. Workshop will take place outside unless raining, and is aimed for children aged 16+ years and adults.

**Monday 8th November | 11am-1pm | MAKE SPACE**  
**Monday 8th November | 2pm-4pm | MAKE SPACE**

**A GUIDE TO SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS WITH THE BRITISH LIBRARY**  
**Tuesday 9th November | 2pm-4pm | The Living Centre**

Have you ever wanted to set up a sustainable business? Don't know where to start or who to turn to to get that incredible idea off the ground?

Let the British Library guide you in a session offering best practice, inspiring examples of successful sustainable businesses and a way to attract and engage customers. This session is in partnership with local entrepreneur Ije Ene. The British Library also offers free business support through their Business and IP Centre.

**SOME LIKE IT HOT? IN COLLABORATION WITH BRYONY BENGE-ABBOTT & THE UNIVERISTY OF LIVERPOOL**

Join an interactive creative workshop with environmental historian Dr Chris Pearson and artist Bryony Benges-Abbott, as we discuss the past, present and future of urban heat. Together, we will co-design a mural for the Living Centre that reflects personal experiences of rising temperatures in Somers Town.

**Tuesday 9th November | 10am-12pm | The Living Centre**  
**Wednesday 10th November | 10am-12pm | The Living Centre**



**THINK & DO FREE SHARING SPACE PROJECT BRAINSTORM**  
**Wednesday 10th November | 12pm-2pm | The Living Centre**

Come along to a follow up meeting with Think & Do to launch a new resident led Free Sharing Space. Together lets think about how we can share food, stories, skills and stuff.

**HOW TO SAVE THE PLANET WHEN YOU'RE A YOUNG CARER AND BROKE BY BOUNDLESS THEATRE**  
**Wednesday 17th November | 4pm-6:30pm | The Living Centre | Age: 15+**

**\*Content Warning: Strong Language, Climate Anxiety, Displacement, Illness**

Lavisha has 99 problems, but climate change ain't one. There's never enough time when you're having to choose between steak dinners and vegan food bank vouchers, staying home for evening face mask rituals and wanting to save the world before it's too late. So, what do you do when you can't afford solar panels on your house and can't skip school to attend a protest? Lavisha reckons posh people are going to save the planet but new mate Avril makes her wonder if she could join the fight. Written by award-winning Nessah Muthy and directed by Stef O'Driscoll How To Save The Planet When You're A Young Carer and Broke peeks into the life of a young working-class carer having to make decisions between life-saving responsibilities at home and being dedicated to save the planet in times of climate emergency.

Expect a refreshingly loud solo show with loads of fun, music, raw emotions and the rush of taking climate-positive actions into your own hands. Lavisha is played by Elizabeth Ayodele making her professional stage debut.

**NEW GOOGLE BUILDING TOURS WITH LENDLEASE**

**Tuesday 16th November | 10am-12pm | 2pm-4pm**

**Thursday 18th November | 10am-12pm | 2pm-4pm**  
**\*dependent on popularity**

**18+**



**To sign up to a session or to make an enquiry please email...**

[climateexhibition@thelivingcentre.org](mailto:climateexhibition@thelivingcentre.org)

**Location...**

**THE LIVING CENTRE** **MAKE SPACE**  
2 Ossulston St, London NW1 1DF Ossulston St, Somers Town, London NW1 1DF

# LOCAL NEWS AND INFORMATION

## Macmillan Cake Sale

3rd November at The Living Centre. Come and SUPPORT a great charity and GET CAKE, a perfect combination!

## Need help with Universal Credit?

citizens advice Camden

If you are already receiving Universal Credit, then we can support you with maintaining your Universal Credit claim.

This project can help you with many aspects of managing your existing Universal Credit claim, including:

- Challenging benefit decisions relating to your Universal Credit claim (including appeals)
- Understanding how changes will affect your Universal Credit claim
- Support accessing financial assistance and charitable grants if you are experiencing financial difficulty while receiving Universal Credit
- Help dealing with reductions in your award and overpayments of benefit
- Advice and information on how to manage your claim (including reporting changes in circumstances, contacting your Work Coach)

Every Monday at the Living Centre. To book your appointment call 020 7380 0453.

## What is the Job Hub?

We are a small and friendly team of qualified employment and training advisers who can support you in a range of different ways. We keep up with the jobs market in Camden and what is going on with local employers.

You can talk to us about what you would ideally like to do with your life, and we can support you in looking for the right chances to gain experience and qualifications. Many Job Hub clients start by **volunteering** to build up their experience and skills; **building confidence** by taking part in a group or workshop; or undertaking **training** or **education** that will give them a **qualification** and chance to learn and grow.

We can also help you to **create or update your CV**, **find and apply for jobs**, and **practise for interviews**.

Feeling stuck with your job applications, or attending lots of interviews but not getting an offer? We can talk with you about why, and offer feedback and suggestions for how to get 'unstuck'.

The Job Hub team are happy to meet with you by phone, Zoom, or in person. We are keen to support you in achieving your aims! Please call 07949 144 230 or email [jobhub@somerstown.org.uk](mailto:jobhub@somerstown.org.uk) to make an appointment.

## A History of Celebration: A Festival of Celebration



Catherine Ross, Editor at Black History Month UK, explained why they are launching the campaign:

"It's been a challenging time for many Black and Brown people, with so much in the media about racism, inequality and injustice. We wanted the theme of Black History Month 2021 to focus on celebrating being Black or Brown, and to inspire and share the pride people have in their heritage and culture – in their own way, in their own words.

"By asking people to share what they are Proud To Be we can share both individual stories and the vast richness of diversity that Black and Brown people bring to the UK.

"Black Lives Matter means people being able to live life to the fullest without having to compromise who they are. Everyone deserves the right to be Proud To Be everything they are and want to be in life."

## HOW TO FIND US

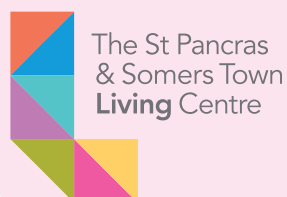
The St Pancras and Somers Town Living Centre  
2 Ossulston Street, London NW1 1DF

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

