

Somers Town Community Newsletter



**LOVE PEACE JOY
TO THE WORLD**

The whole team at Somers Town Community Association and the Living Centre wishes everyone a peaceful Christmas and a hope filled 2026. In this new year may the things that make us different be celebrated and valued, and our focus be on unity and togetherness and peace for all.

Our centre is closed from the 24th December, to give our team a well deserved rest and we will see you all again on the 5th January 2026.



Support local chefs and groups serving delicious food at STCA

LOCAL NEWS AND INFORMATION



A JOINT CALL FOR INSIGHT:
SOMERS TOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD
PLANNING HEALTH SURVEY

SCAN ME

YOUR PERSPECTIVE IS OUR STRATEGY

The survey invites all local businesses, charities, community groups, and resident associations to share your unique view. You are experts in what makes Somers Town tick. We are genuinely curious: What opportunities are we missing to improve the well-being of our residents, customers, and employees? This is a strategic partnership with the business sector and Camden Council to ensure the **new Somers Town Neighbourhood Plan (2026-2035)** reflects the needs of everyone who works and lives here.

TAKE THE 10-MINUTE SURVEY NOW

A PARTNERSHIP PROJECT: By the Somers Town Neighbourhood Forum's Health Committee, working with a doctoral student from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.

Contact: Dominique Chamely | Email: dominique.chamely@lshtm.ac.uk | Phone: 07469 699049

Thank you for lending your expertise to build a stronger Somers Town.



Scouts
15th St Pancras
Scout Group

#Skillsforlife
Learn more.
Do more
Be more.

Abseiling down a wall or taking on a challenge
Building a shelter in the woods

This could be you on any weekend!

What did you do last Thursday night; play in your bedroom, or watching the TV, this week you could be at one of our meeting playing games or learning a new skill, map reading, first aid or photography plus loads more.

We meet Thursday Nights from 6.30pm - 8.00pm.
Somers Town Community Centre
150 Ossulston Street
London NW1 1EE

BEAVERS
Beavers are Boys and Girls
between 6 - 8 yrs old

cubs
Cubs are Boys and Girls
between 8 - 10½ yrs old

SCOUTS
Scouts are Boys and Girls
between 10½ - 14½ yrs old

For More Information contact: 15thensquiry@gmail.com or call 07930 695 683



Christmas Services at St Pancras Church

A VERY QUEER CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE
6.30pm Friday 12th December

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT
6pm Sunday 14th December

COMMUNITY CAROLS FOR ALL
2pm Thursday 18th December

FAMILY CAROL SERVICE
4pm Christmas Eve 24th December

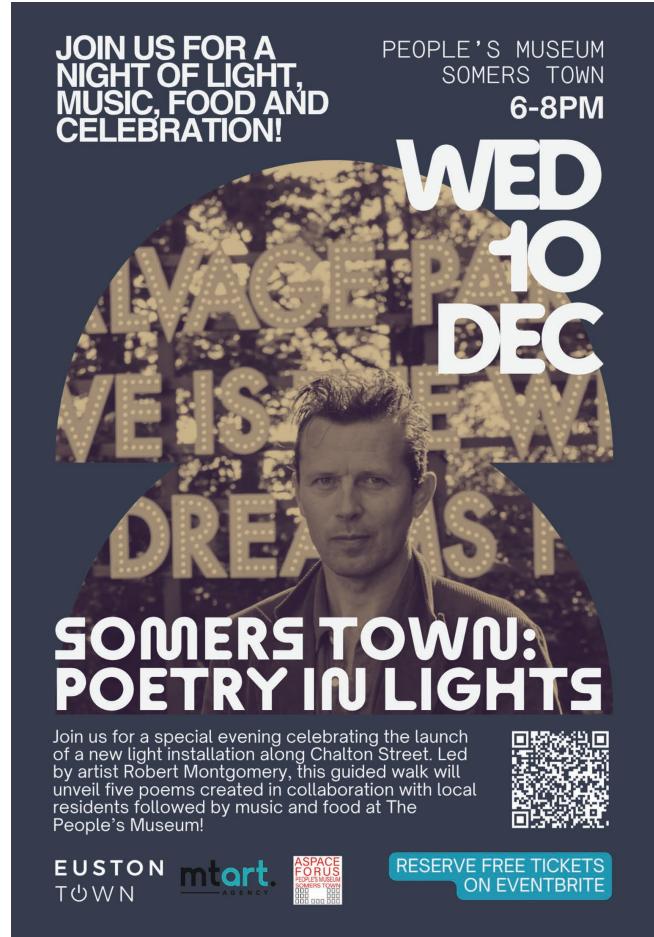
MIDNIGHT MASS
11pm Christmas Eve 24th December

CHRISTMAS MORNING EUCHARIST
11am Christmas Day 25th December

PARISH EUCHARIST
11am Sunday 28th December

Services are **free** and open to all

St Pancras Church, Euston Road, London NW1 2BA
www.stpancraschurch.org



JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF LIGHT, MUSIC, FOOD AND CELEBRATION!

WED 10 DEC

PEOPLE'S MUSEUM
SOMERS TOWN
6-8PM

SOMERS TOWN: POETRY IN LIGHTS

Join us for a special evening celebrating the launch of a new light installation along Chalton Street. Led by artist Robert Montgomery, this guided walk will unveil five poems created in collaboration with local residents followed by music and food at The People's Museum!



EUSTON TOWN   

FN2030 ACHIEVEMENTS

**Somers Town
Future
Neighbourhoods
2030**

SUPPORTED BY
MAYOR OF LONDON

These are some of the most notable FN2030 achievements during the last phase of the programme. Somers Town is one of two neighbourhoods in London designated as a Future Neighbourhood 2030 (FN2030). The Greater London Authority provided funding to these two neighbourhoods to test approaches and initiatives to make the neighbourhood as sustainable as possible. The programme started in early 2022 and will formally come to an end in December 2025.

However, many lessons have been learned and some initiatives will continue into 2026 in some form. We are currently evaluating the impacts of the programme with the support of an external evaluator (Bioregional) and hoping to have a detailed report in Spring 2026. In the meantime, we would like to share a summary of top-level achievements the FN2030 programme has contributed to:

Mobility Hubs

A recognisable location or space that offers a mix of sustainable and active shared mobility modes including shared bikes, bike repair kits, car clubs, cargo bikes and e-scooters, cycle parking and seating. They are located at the following locations: Goldington Crescent, Charrington Street, Cranleigh Street, Doric Way, Chalton Street, Werrington Street and Brill Place. Additional benefits include implementing around 150 m² of greening, removing 27 pay-by-phone parking bays, 7 resident bays and 1 motorcycle bay.

Healthy School Streets

Five HEALTHY School Streets were trialled and later made permanent along Blossom House School, Edith Neville Primary School, Maria Fidelis Catholic School, Regent High School and St Mary & St Pancras Primary School. Healthy School Streets in Camden: <https://www.camden.gov.uk/healthy-school-streets>

Cycle Infrastructure

Cycle lanes were established/improved along Oakley Square (north), Goods Way and Crowndale Road, including segregated cycle lanes.

Solar Panels

A 200-panel solar array was installed at Regent High School via community share offer, delivering cheap and clean electricity for the school, saving carbon and reducing running costs.

Retrofitting

Forty flats were retrofitted with internal wall insulation as part of a trial to test the approach. The approach proved to be challenging, favouring external wall insulation as a more efficient approach. A proposal is being developed to do this at Phoenix Court.

Bicycle Repair and Maintenance

Collectively, the project has saved participants approximately £50,000 through bike repairs and services.

The project collected over 500 bikes in disrepair. Over 120 were upcycled and donated, the rest were used for parts or recycled, diverting over 7.7 tons of waste from landfill. 25 teenagers completed apprenticeships in bike mechanics, and over 500 advice and support appointments were delivered.

FN2030 ACHIEVEMENTS

Sharing Spaces

Two local resident association halls have been activated by Think and Do to become spaces for residents to share skills, knowledge, food and good times together. These include Ampthill Estate and Goldington Crescent. Over 90 residents, on average, attend sessions every week, engaging a total of around 4,050 local residents. This has involved 60 local residents being paid to share their skills at these workshops.

Climate Learning Hub

The Community Climate Learning Hub seeks to engage people on topics that matter to them, such as the cost of living and health, whilst also taking climate action. This included sessions like Grow-it-Yourself, Cook-it-Yourself and Make-it-Yourself, with over 270 sessions delivered between April 2024 and September 2025. While behaviour change is notoriously difficult to measure and monitor accurately, STCA staff noted that residents who came to the Learning Hub became more interested in the environment and would talk about topics such as recycling and wildlife. This work was further supported by Training Link who ran an extensive programme of greening workshops and activities from their centre and Kindle Corner through their parents/carers and toddler storytelling drop in sessions at STCA.

Extended Project Qualification

A 12-week accredited course mentoring residents to develop fundable climate projects (worth 28 UCAS points) was piloted and improved in a second reiteration. The course has now been developed into a toolkit for anyone with the relevant experience to replicate it. Over 20 learners/participants engaged during the pilot, with around 10 ideas being developed into viable projects.

Greening Activities

Global Generation delivered gardening activities at the Story Garden and in estates across Somers Town. 75 households had access to growing beds in the Story Garden. Growers were supported in 6 estates, Walker House, Hadstock House, Phoenix Court Rooftop, Monica Shaw and Origin Housing estates, with over 100 households invested in food growing/greening. Activities included setting up new additional food growing spaces in Crowndale, Hadstock, Godwin estate, supporting communal garden and habitat gardens in Lavita House, weekly in-estates gardening group. Providing materials for growing in balconies and windowsills for over 50 residents, and gardening

training for green mentors for 3 mentors, and 10 residents received accredited training in horticulture. Overall, the programme reached approximately 600 people.

Greening work in Somers Town will continue into 2026 through gardening clubs taking place during summer, cultural events, informal education activities/workshops for residents, including trips to local places of interest, connecting residents with the new Story Garden, and opportunities for residents to get involved with the design of the permanent garden for the BL extension. We will also continue to support other community growing spaces e.g. FN partners STCA rooftop garden.

Safe Cycle Parking

With the support of LifeAfterHummus (LAH) and Your Bike Project sites for the first two cycle sheds were chosen for the installation of safe cycling parking. The sites are Levita and Monica Shaw. The cages are going to be managed by residents who are currently being supported by Camden council housing colleagues.

Surplus Food Redistribution

LifeAfterHummus has been working towards the creation of a local edible food redistribution and non-edible food composting to activate and support the community, minimise and valorise food waste from local businesses and reduce carbon emissions whilst creating localised behaviour change. Their aim is to expand their collection capacity to a 1.2-mile radius from the centre of Somers Town. The project has had a low start, recruiting 4 new businesses as part of the network, with 21 remaining to bring on board. So far, this equates to approximately 1 ton of surplus food redistributed; the final target is 3 tons per month.

Greening Estates

Camden council Green Spaces teams have worked in close collaboration with residents to deliver a range of improvements to estate courtyards and green areas. 150 households (over 400 residents) got involved in food growing during the last year. 70 training sessions were delivered with approximately 800 people benefiting, and over 600 hours of volunteering were dedicated to greening-related activities. Improvement works were completed on Levita House North Courtyard, and started works in two other estates (Walker House and Oakshott Court). Improvements include repairing/enhancing existing lawn areas, planters, introducing new trees and planting schemes to increase climate resilience and biodiversity, as well as drainage and water holding capacity.

For further information, visit <https://www.somerstown.org.uk/about-fn2030/>

LOCAL NEWS AND INFORMATION



One in Four is all it takes, so be more planet friendly

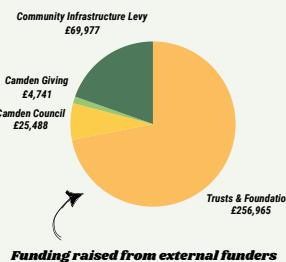
COP30@STCA - Events held 10th to 21st November 2025

Once again, we hosted a variety of workshops and events, including our own, alongside the 30th Conference of Parties. We thank all the partners, participants, sponsors, volunteers and staff who made these two inspiring weeks possible.



SOMERS TOWN BIG LOCAL

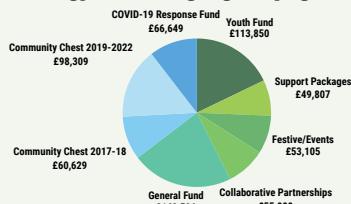
As of October 2025,
£637,944.66
HAS BEEN AWARDED ACROSS
183 GRANTEES
AND A TOTAL OF
£357,170.52
RAISED FOR
25 COMMUNITY
PROJECTS AND 7
BUSINESS SUPPORT
PACKAGES COMMITTED



OUR PURPOSE

To walk alongside residents and local organisations and support them in their journey to *create* and *develop* ideas that *serve, inspire, uplift and support* our community.

Funding provided through Big Local programme



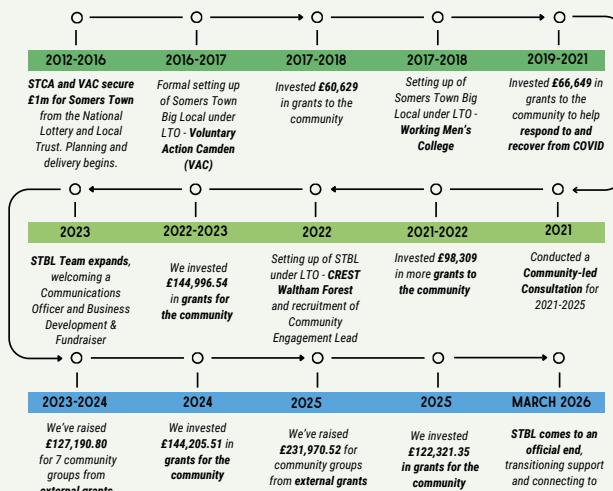
Between 2023-2025, we funded £140,595.66 that supported 35 PROJECTS which have benefited over 1500 residents

Between 2023-2024, £113,850 WAS INVESTED ACROSS 13 PROJECTS THAT COLLECTIVELY BENEFITED 670 young people from Somers Town

Between 2023-2025, we invested £55,104.91 to support 2 COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMMES FOR OVER 1000 Somers Town residents

In 2023-2025, £55,104.91 was distributed to support & fund 24 EVENTS THAT COLLECTIVELY BENEFITED over 2000 Somers Town residents

THE 14-YEAR JOURNEY OF SOMERS TOWN BIG LOCAL



LOCAL NEWS AND INFORMATION

STORY GARDEN



The Story Garden was born out of a desire for more green community space in Somers Town. For six years it activated the disused British Library car park and became a thriving community hub and haven for nature.

35000

people passed through the gates to eat, grow, play

2000

kilogrammes of food grown & harvested, including donations to Euston Food Bank

9

estates and local areas greened, like the STCA rooftop garden



Global Generation is a youth environmental educational charity with community growing spaces in London focused on supporting people to connect and create a fair and just world.



None of our work in Somers Town would have been possible without the Story Garden - a portal into a different way of being in the middle of the city which invited people across backgrounds and ages to come together, reflect, start new conversations and visions for a better world. Since closing, plants and materials were distributed to 30 charities across London, to over 90 residents of Somers Town, and engaged over 200 people.

Thank you to all our supporters, community members, young people and the team for a wonderful six years! Although the garden is moving to York Way, greening activity will continue in Somers Town. Stay in touch!



KEEP UP TO DATE:
www.globalgeneration.org.uk
[instagram: @globalgeneration](https://www.instagram.com/@globalgeneration)

HOW TO FIND US

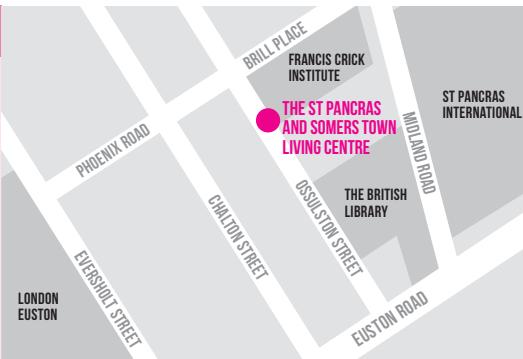
The St Pancras and Somers Town Living Centre
2 Ossulston Street
London NW1 1DF

Tel 020 7380 0453
email hello@thelivingcentre.org
www.somerstown.org.uk

The Living Centre is supported by the Francis Crick Institute

As part of our efforts to be more accessible, we now have a **FREE 0300 number**.

0300 102 7822



To receive or view the digital formats of our newsletter, please go to our website or send us your email address to be added to our mailing list. If you want something included in the newsletter, please email communication@thelivingcentre.org

Other announcements are also available and can be posted digitally on www.thelivingcentre.org

PEOPLE'S MUSEUM

Vinyl nights at the Museum

Join us on Thursdays, when @danny detours hosts a fortnightly vinyl night. Come along, vibe, jam, relax, and let the music help us all destress.

Looking for co-hosts to do themed nights in the future! Next up: Thursday 4th December, 7pm – 9.30pm at the People's Museum.

Why not have a night (or lunch!) at the Museum for your xmas team gathering?

A Space for Us is a bright, cosy space just minutes from King's Cross, St Pancras, Euston and the Eurostar.

It's a quirky venue with interesting exhibits, has a projector, piano, printing press and record player. Barista coffee is available and catering can be provided – we can recommend local cooks to support local communities.

We can also run guided walks to see our new heritage trail public artworks!

When you hire our space, you're not just booking a room – you're helping Somers Town become resilient and the space to serve its communities.

Prices on a sliding scale, email: somerstownhistory@gmail.com for more information.

**People's Museum
52 Phoenix Road
London NW1 1ES**

**Somers Town
Future
Neighbourhoods
2030**

SUPPORTED BY
MAYOR OF LONDON

Committed to tackling the climate and ecological emergencies, whilst addressing London's health and social inequalities.



Connect with volunteering, training and job opportunities – Visit the Job Hub