



Lee Green Community Centre, 3 Leegate, Lee, London, SE12 8SS. Centre Phone Number: 07594 656 772 Registered Charity No. 1141238

NEWSLETTER – July 2011

The drive to develop a sense of pride and community in Leegate and the surrounding area of Lee Green is making progress. The partnership launch of 28th February got a big response, and we're now having a report prepared following consultation with local community groups, shopkeepers, faith groups, Lewisham Council, St Modwens and Voluntary Action Lewisham.

The draft report will establish a set of aims and objectives, ways of making best use and improving the precinct in the short term. We are working to create a strategy for ensuring an effective local response to any future redevelopment plans. Once ready, we will circulate this in time for a general meeting in the autumn.

Thanks to a bid approved by Lee Green Assembly, we have been able to appoint our first staff member, Kaiya Williams, to work as Centre Co-ordinator for 10 hours a week. Kaiya has settled in well and, working with the Management Committee, has started to overhaul all our documents, and to develop the services we provide and our relationships with users.

Now, the bad news

The community centre is currently closed, stymied by the lack of a lease. We'd hoped to take over seamlessly from MakeBelieve Arts in mid-June on the expiry of their tenure as leaseholders.

However, St Modwens have been slow in sending the new lease and – despite some improvements in the terms (notably on charging for running costs) – we've been frustrated by the delay. Lack of a lease means we cannot take out insurance, essential if we're to protect ourselves against accident or mishap.

Our relationship with St Modwen is sensitive as we are, after all, getting the property rent-free.

The situation was exacerbated by a damaged front window, caused by vandals, which – without insurance cover – held up repairs. However, we are happy to report that St Modwens have agreed to meet the costs.

The closure has forced us to consider a fresh start in September, using the break to freshen up our literature to add to our programme of activities and develop a better coordinated system of volunteers. For more information, contact Kaiya Williams on 07884 283066.

We now have a website which will be running soon (<http://www.leegreenlives.org.uk>) with its own email address: leegreenlives@gmail.com which is now live.

Our finances are relatively healthy, although we have yet to receive our latest allocation from Lee Green Assembly. This will duly arrive, once we've accounted for all our transactions – due imminently – up to 31 March 2011.