

CITY LIVING  
LOCAL LIFE

KENSINGTON  
AND CHELSEA

# Annual Report 2014/15

[citylivinglocallife.org](http://citylivinglocallife.org)



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF  
KENSINGTON  
AND CHELSEA



Just some of the projects supported through City Living, Local Life in 2014/15

# Leader's Foreword



All around the Royal Borough, residents, community groups and local businesses are stepping forward to work with their ward councillors to make life in Kensington and Chelsea even better.

Through City Living, Local Life, the Council is enabling such civic involvement by backing community

action with dedicated officer time and ward budgets.

This year has seen all 18 wards taking part in City Living, Local Life, with over £197,000 supporting 112 projects. And all around the borough we're seeing what difference the programme is making from improving access to cultural opportunities; enhancing life skills of young people; increasing social events to tackle isolation amongst older people to cleaning and greening neighbourhoods.

Now in its fourth year, City Living, Local Life is working well - remaining as relevant and useful for our vision for the borough as ever, and accessible for residents and community groups alike to encourage partnership working and importantly, action.

And the good news is that more and more people are feeling like they can influence decisions which affect their communities and in turn take an active part in local life.

The latest findings from the Annual Survey of Londoners – a survey across London boroughs comparing satisfaction with public services and key indicators on quality of life – has revealed positive increases in community engagement measures with an increase in the percentage of people who feel the Council involves local people in the decisions which affect them (up 5% to 56%) and also an increase in the percentage of people who feel like they can get along with people of other backgrounds.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in City Living, Local Life for ensuring a successful year and urge anyone with an idea, a skill, or a bit of time to give, to get in the touch with the team and get on board.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicholas Paget-Brown'.

**Councillor Nicholas Paget-Brown**

**Leader of the Council**

# An Introduction to the Annual Report 2014/15



I am delighted to be introducing this year's City Living, Local Life Annual Report following another successful year for our localism initiative.

Despite a busy time in the run up to the local elections in May 2014, there has been a flurry of City Living, Local Life activities across the Royal Borough, with

a variety of projects supported which are making a difference to the lives of residents and the communities we serve.

The strength of the initiative remains in its flexibility and responsiveness – allowing councillors to work with residents, community groups and local businesses in a way that suits local circumstances and needs at ward level.

In my own ward of Chelsea Riverside, the initiative is proving really valuable by supporting good ideas from residents being turned into local action, improving quality of life and bringing the Council and communities closer together. I hope you enjoy reading what my fellow councillors and I have been up to on page 10!

At the same time, our borough-wide central support for the initiative provided by the Community Engagement Team has continued to help City Living, Local Life mature with enhanced communication and outreach to residents and voluntary organisations, increases in the number of residents benefiting from local information and news on community events, and the establishment of a network of volunteer community reporters to name but a few examples.

I hope you enjoy reading this third annual report and that it inspires you to get involved as the initiative grows from strength to strength. You can find out how to get more involved on page 33.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Gerard Hargreaves', written over a light grey background.

**Councillor Gerard Hargreaves**

**Cabinet Member for Voluntary Organisations and Resident Engagement**

# What is City Living, Local Life?



**Now in its fourth year, City Living, Local Life (CLLL) is committed to building stronger connections between people across Kensington and Chelsea. It enables residents, community groups and local businesses to take an active role in bringing about practical, positive change in their neighbourhoods.**

Ward councillors are at the heart of this work and help prioritise projects and activities that are led with the community. The aim is to build on what is already going on across the Royal Borough, encouraging local people to share their experiences of issues in their neighbourhoods and work with ward councillors to come up with solutions. Through these interactions amongst residents, community groups and local businesses, City Living, Local Life aims to build lasting relationships which can help to build stronger, more resilient communities.

## How does City Living, Local Life work?

Each of the eighteen wards in the borough has access to dedicated support and resources with ward councillors able to

secure up to £20,000 per ward each financial year (£14,000 for wards with two councillors).

Residents and/or community groups come up with ideas for local projects or activities and discuss these with the Community Engagement Team or local ward councillors directly.

Once ideas for activities and projects are received by the Council, ward councillors work with officers to assess them based on their ward priorities, and the aims of City Living, Local Life, which are to:

- enhance understanding of local areas (including local history, local people, the area itself in terms geography and places within it);
- build stronger connections and relationships between local people;
- help to identify, assess and prioritise improvements in local areas;
- devise practical solutions that involve local people; and
- work with local people and organisations to deliver those solutions.

This year a short animation was produced to show how an idea has the potential to develop and be supported by City Living, Local Life. You can find “Ben and Sue’s Story” on our homepage: [www.citylivinglocallife.org](http://www.citylivinglocallife.org)

# City Living, Local Life: by the numbers

**112**

projects funded

**£197,000**

allocated to projects

**18**

newsletter articles written by Kensington and Chelsea residents

**80**

City Living, Local Life applications submitted online

**59 projects**

benefiting young people and families

**19,000 views**

on the Community Noticeboard blog in 2014

**19 green space**

or environment improvement projects funded

**All 18 wards**

involved in City Living, Local Life

**Over 10,000\* residents**

attending events supported by City Living, Local Life as reported by funded projects

**2 ward**

'conversations' events held with residents

**32 projects**

benefiting older people supported

**3,500\* residents**

taking part in City Living, Local Life group activities

**Over 700**

people spoken to at City Living, Local Life attended events

**2,200** local people signed up to the 'Cuppa' e-newsletter

**41**

arts and leisure activities supported

**15 local history**

projects supported

**29** City Living, Local Life pop-up events

**31**

street parties or events funded



\*These numbers reflect 86 of the 112 projects which have been delivered or completed.

Golborne Youth Club  
Focus group between young  
people and the Design Museum



# City Living, Local Life:

## what's been happening in the borough?

### Since the last annual report...

Following the May 2014 elections and the publication of the Local Government Boundary Commission, the Royal Borough underwent some changes to the wards with St. Charles ward being renamed Dalgarno, Notting Barns became Notting Dale, Cremorne is now Chelsea Riverside, and Brompton and Hans Town wards merged under one name. 13 new councillors joined returning councillors. A new ward was created in the north of the borough called St. Helen's, and this, as well as Dalgarno, Norland and Pembridge wards became two member wards owing to the population size.

As a result, the allocation of dedicated budgets for two member wards was changed to up to £14,000 per year per ward, whilst three member wards remains at up to £20,000 per year per ward. All information on the City Living, Local Life website has updated to reflect these changes.

### A flavour of 2014/15

2014/15 was another busy year for City Living, Local Life, with all 18 wards in the borough active in supporting local initiatives and generating ideas.

Projects funded this year have included and resulted in introducing art initiatives to a range of local residents, better life skills for young people, increased social events for isolated older people, improved employment prospects for residents, enhancing the local environment, and a greater understanding of local history.

Overleaf, between pages 9 and 17, provides a snapshot of ward activity since the publication of the last annual report. The ward spend shows the amount of funding awarded from 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015. A list of all funded organisations in the 2014/15 can be found on page 34.

For more information on individual ward activity, grant allocations or future ward priorities, visit your **ward page** or get in touch.



# Abingdon

**Stratford Road Village Shops (Gill Bradley Designs)**

The Directory Area: Fable House  
www.fablehouse.com/stratfordvillage  
020 7957 7110

No. 3 Fal Plaster, Tiles and Colours  
www.falplaster.co.uk  
020 7957 2777

No. 5 I Homecare Dry Cleaners  
020 7957 0010

No. 7 Olive Fabric, Irons and Bedlinen  
www.olivefabric.com  
020 7956 6388

No. 9 Fine Prints Sales  
www.fineprints.com  
020 7957 8019

No. 9 The Studio  
88 Pilsford Drive Abingdon  
www.thestudio.co.uk  
020 7938 4358

No. 11a Haircare Fabrics, Plaster  
www.haircarefabrics.co.uk  
020 7935 5099

No. 11 Lawn Maintenance  
020 7957 5686

No. 13 Floor Deck, Deck, Fencing  
www.puredecks.com  
020 7957 7667

No. 15b Homecare Hardware  
Independent Fiddle Agents  
www.puredecks.com  
020 7957 7996

Kensington High St Station  
Wright's Lane  
Marlers Road  
Stratford Road  
Bullfield Street  
Stalled House  
Lambert Place  
Lambert Road  
Dale Court Road  
Cromwell Road  
Honey Lane  
High Lane

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020 7957 0128  
No. 6 A Food and Wine  
Community shop  
Open Mon-Sat 10am-10pm  
020 7957 5971  
No. 8 The Garden Bed and Linen  
020 7957 9059  
No. 10 Deluxe Dry Cleaners  
www.deluxedrycleaners.com  
020 7937 1955  
No. 12 Kensington Design  
Interior Design, Curators, Textiles  
www.kensingtondesign.com  
020 7958 2000  
No. 14 477 Piles, Landlord, Beds  
www.477piles.com  
020 7957 1777  
No. 16 Arts, Books  
020 7958 1112  
No. 18 Henrys Hair Bar Salon  
www.henrys.com  
No. 20 In Florist, Deli  
www.inflorist.com/abingdon  
020 2961 4105  
No. 24A Raffle Place  
The Raffle Place, 24a  
www.raffleplace.co.uk/abingdon  
020 7957 4911

Following a proposal put forward by local residents and conservation group, Edwardes Square Scarsdale and Abingdon Association, a commemorative blue plaque for Lady Clementine Churchill, wife of Sir Winston, was **unveiled at 51 Abingdon Villas in September.**

Abingdon councillors have also supported local businesses on Stratford Road, to help increase footfall through promotion in a local magazine (read more on page 22). Elsewhere Abingdon have funded an improved planter design on the junction of Pembroke Road and Warwick Gardens and supported local community events.

**Ward spend: £3,877.37** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/abingdon](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/abingdon)

# Brompton and Hans Town

As separate wards, Brompton and Hans Town prioritised local history in their neighbourhoods, from **restoring 18th Century hitching posts in Ennismore Street** (Brompton Ward) to contributing towards the Chelsea Society’s “Chelsea in The Great War” Exhibition (Hans Town Ward).

This year, Brompton and Hans Town ward councillors have provided a small informative plaque for the hitching posts and invested in Open Age’s Link-Up programme at New Horizons, providing a series of activities in tackling isolation and improving health and well being amongst older residents. Councillors are also supporting the early work to improve the Yalta Memorial Garden working with the V&A.

**Ward spend: £6,544.72**  
[www.rbkc.gov.uk/bromptonandhanstown](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/bromptonandhanstown)

**Ennismore Street hitching posts**

# Campden

Campden councillors have continued to support the projects in the ward which seek to address social isolation amongst older people through the Kensington and Chelsea Forum for Older Residents, Open Age and the St. George's Lunch Club. The former two organisations introduced project targets with particular focus on identifying hard to reach residents in the ward.

Councillors have also supported a week of interactive learning about food and nutrition with the Food Explorers, at St. Mary Abbot's Primary School (read more on page 19). The Food Explorers will also run a history project with Fox Primary, exploring the cultural history of food in Kensington and Chelsea.

Councillors also ran the inaugural '**Ward Conversations**' – an event with residents to encourage local involvement and inspire new ideas for projects (see more on page 30).

**Ward spend: £12,662.92** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/campden](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/campden)



St. George's lunch club

# Chelsea Riverside



World's End Piazza mosaic

Chelsea Riverside councillors have supported a range of activities since the turn of the year, with particular focus on young people. This has included supporting the Chelsea Youth Festival, St. John's Church with

equipment for their youth gym, an open-mic session for young people, a Food Explorers project at Ashburnham Primary (read more on page 19) and supporting the development of a Youth Manifesto as part of the **Big Local initiative** on World's End and Lots Road.

Councillors also prioritised the World's End Piazza, with a **mosaic panel designed by Ashburnham pupils**, Christmas lights on the Kings Road and planters maintained by members of the St. Mary Abbots Rehabilitation and Training (SMART) Centre (see page 24).

**Ward spend: £15,632** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/chelseariverside](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/chelseariverside)

# Colville



Portobello Dance (Elliot Franks)

Colville councillors have supported an array of local ideas, based on agreed priorities in consultation with residents. This has

resulted in support for lunch clubs for older residents, educational and provision for younger people to **local history projects**. This financial year, these commitments continued with funding going towards educating younger residents with a Food Explorers week at Colville Primary (read more on page 19), dance performances for local children promoting Black History Month, and an intergenerational project from Age UK Kensington and Chelsea entitled 'Hip Hop Shakespeare'.

Support was also given to highlight the history of the area with the Colville Community Oral History project and the management committee of the **150 Years of Portobello and Golborne Market celebrations**. Councillors also provided replacement computers which were stolen from the Salvation Army on Portobello Road.

**Ward spend: £20,000** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/colville](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/colville)

# Courtfield

Joining City Living, Local Life this year, councillors have been establishing their main priority in the ward to improve the area outside Gloucester Road Station. An action plan has been developed with City Living, Local Life which has involved working with the Council's highways and waste management team to improve the area between Cromwell Road and Stanhope Gardens.

Work is also being done to engage with local businesses to encourage their participation in these efforts, and a meeting was organised to discuss ideas further. Expenditure to date has been the issuing of a ward-wide survey for councillors to find out more from local residents about what might improve Courtfield.

**Ward spend: £3,663** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/courtfield](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/courtfield)

Gloucester Road Station



# Dalgarno



St. Charles Garden Club

Councillors have supported a series of projects in Dalgarno, ranging from the **restoration of the**

**club house tables** on the Balfour of Burleigh Estate with Goldfinger Factory to the running of a social group for isolated men. This financial year, as well as continuing to support the Dalgarno Trust with an assortment of projects, councillors have funded easy grip tools for the **St. Charles Community Garden Club**, S.P.I.D. Theatre Company to perform at a national youth theatre festival and St Francis Church to renovate their community garden.

As seen on page 18, the St. Quintin's Film Club was given new equipment to show classic films to older residents, employment training at the Clement James Centre (page 20) and an intergenerational local history project with digital works at Barlby Primary School with support from other wards. Councillors also welcomed new ideas from residents and local groups at the 'Dalgarno Conversations' in March.

**Ward spend: £13,966** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/dalgarno](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/dalgarno)

# Earl's Court



St. Cuthbert and  
St. Matthias Church

Earl's Court councillors have focused their City Living, Local Life efforts on supporting local art initiatives; as a way of reaching all aspects of the local community. Most significant has been the support to St. Cuthbert and St. Matthias Church to install a sound and lighting system to improve drama and concert performances for Earl's Court residents, both audience and performers. The hope is that it can also be used to raise

funds for further community work.

In addition, councillors funded the Earl's Court Drama Workshop to run classes for young people, and alongside Redcliffe ward, co-funded the active Finborough Theatre to produce a locally written show called 'Childhood Memories'. This was a theatrical account of wartime memories during the Second World War to coincide with the centenary of the start of the First World War and the 70th anniversary of the D-Day landings (see page 23). Opera Holland Park Friends was also awarded funding to sing in local retirement homes.

**Ward spend: £20,000.** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/myearlscourt](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/myearlscourt)

# Golborne



Farmival

Golborne councillors have continued to support local initiatives which aim to promote the area and bring people together

through community events. This has included **the Golborne Festival**, the Trellick Tower Resident Association Fun Day, the **Love Golborne website** and the production of 'Love Golborne' tote bags for community use.

Councillors have also provided the Swinbrook Estate Resident Association with funding for decoration and blinds, refurbishment towards the Golborne Youth Centre, a tutor to the North Kensington Women's Textile workshop and contributed towards employment training at the ClementJames Centre (see more on page 20).

**Ward spend: £19,498.40** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/golborne](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/golborne)

# Holland



Counters Court planters

In 2014/15, Holland councillors have prioritised communicating information to their residents by issuing a ward-wide newsletter.

Working with residents, they also supported efforts to reduce anti-social behaviour on

Counters Court on Russell Road by installing raised beds and planters on the surrounding walls, and contributed towards the Christmas Lights on High Street Kensington.

**Ward spend: £4,356.21** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/holland](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/holland)

# Norland

Since January 2014, Norland have supported projects including lunches for isolated older people in the ward, providing equipment for schools and improving local information with the community run website [the Notting Hill Post](#). They have also helped bring people together with local events such as Avondale Fun Day and the Clarendon Cross Summer Fete.

More recently, in the last financial year, councillors have issued a ward-wide survey to gather new ideas from residents, while also contributing towards several projects including the restoration of iron railings in Rosemead Gardens, installing preventative planters in Kingsdale Gardens and contributing towards a defibrillator for Holland Park Surgery.

**Ward spend: £14,000** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/norland](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/norland)



Kingsdale Garden planters

# Notting Dale



digital:works

Notting Dale ward councillors have prioritised a host of local initiatives like community events such as the St. Helen's Festival, seaside coach trips, IT and employment support. Since the start of the new financial year, councillors have supported younger residents with the Food Explorers project at both Thomas Jones and Oxford Gardens schools (see page 19), the North Kensington Oral History project with [digital:works](#), books for the new Kensington Aldridge Academy and the Avondale Community Festival.

Local resident associations were also funded through City Living, Local Life including Henry Dickens Court for its kitchen garden, Whitchurch House for their Christmas Event and Silchester Estate to refurbish their community room.

**Ward spend: £18,094.95** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/nottingdale](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/nottingdale)

# Pembridge



The Gate Theatre

Councillors in Pembridge have contributed towards improving the look of the ward, by supporting the Pembridge Association to arrange **hanging baskets** along Pembridge Road.

The Gate Theatre in Notting Hill has also been supported with some much needed maintenance work to its ventilation system, to allow it to continue to

provide art and cultural events to local residents.

**Ward spend: £9,624.50** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/pembridge](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/pembridge)

# Queen's Gate



Christ Church Kensington

Queen's Gate ward is one of four wards in the centre of the borough (as well as Abingdon, Campden and Holland) who contributed towards the **Christmas Lights on High Street Kensington**, as part of the late night shopping event organised by the Kensington High Street Business Forum.

More recently, councillors approved funding for Christ Church Kensington on Victoria Road to improve its community garden following renovation and flooding.

**Ward spend: £6,816.50** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/queensgate](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/queensgate)

# Redcliffe



Brompton Cemetery

As well as supporting the 'Childhood Memories' production, alongside Earl's Court in Finborough Theatre (see page 23), Redcliffe councillors' main focus this year has been supporting the Friends of Brompton Cemetery. This involved providing funding for both sustainable gravestone maintenance equipment and

necessary training for four staff and two volunteers to enhance this local cultural landmark.

Councillors also awarded funds towards a community engagement project with Earl's Court Youth Club to open up the cemetery to local residents, and to explore restoring the chapel roof for similar gains.

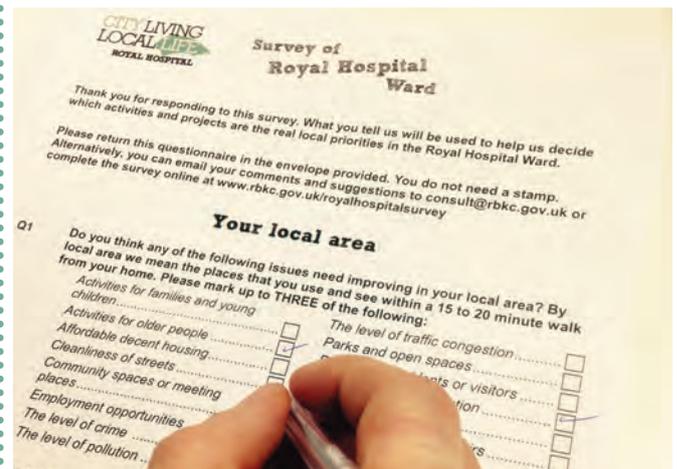
**Ward spend: £13,649.89** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/redcliffe](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/redcliffe)

# Royal Hospital

After supporting community events, landscaping and local history projects in early January 2014, this financial year has seen Royal Hospital councillors electing to issue a ward-wide survey to seek new ideas from local residents.

They also provided funding for a tool shed for the Chelsea Court Tenants Association to be made easily accessible in the garden of their sheltered housing block.

**Ward spend: £4,197.35** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/royalhospital](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/royalhospital)



Royal Hospital survey

# Stanley



Chelsea Westminster Hospital community kitchen garden

In the previous financial year, and in response to some of the ideas and priorities put forward by residents in the ward-wide survey, councillors focussed their City Living, Local Life efforts on the local environment. Of note was the funding for **Chelsea and Westminster Health Trust** to transform part of the hospital's garden into a community kitchen garden for local use. Another project was granted to create an internal edible garden on the hospital's third floor for patients and staff.

This year, and while this project continues to develop, councillors have awarded funding to the SMART Centre to hold a Christmas lunch for its members.

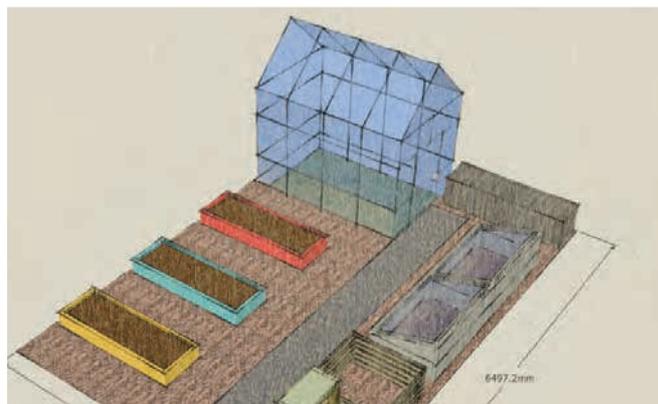
**Ward spend: £500.00** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/stanley](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/stanley)

# St Helen's

St. Helen's main priority as a new ward, with new councillors, has been to find out key local issues and get ideas for projects from residents and local groups by creating a ward-wide survey.

In addition, the ward has been busy in supporting a wide range of age groups: two Oxford Gardens Primary Food Explorers weeks (page 19), an IntoWork programme for local residents at the ClementJames Centre (page 20), a digital:works application to run an intergenerational history project with neighbouring wards and gardening equipment for the New Studio Nursery off St. Quintin Avenue.

**Ward spend: £8,426.45** [www.rbkc.gov.uk/sthelens](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/sthelens)



New Studio garden design

# Local stories, local life:

a selection of City Living, Local Life projects across the borough

**Dalgarno ward:** Bringing older people together at the St. Quintin's Film Club

**“Many of our residents really look forward to the second last Sunday of the month. I’m really pleased that the support from City Living, Local Life has allowed us to improve our Film Club. Getting people out of their homes and socialising over afternoon tea and a classic film is really worthwhile” Michael Harrison, St. Quintin’s Film Club**

Based at Binbrook House, Dalgarno ward, the St. Quintin's Park Residents' Association has been supported by City Living, Local Life to expand its Film Club for local, older residents.

Run by local resident Michael Harrison, the club initially started with equipment borrowed from local people and organisations. Soon the Film Club grew rapidly with around 20 people enjoying a relaxing Sunday each month watching golden oldies, musicals and modern day classics over tea and cakes.



St. Quintin's Film Club

But, as expected with borrowed equipment, it was not always available when needed, meaning that sometimes the Film Club had to run without an adequate screen (often using an old bed-sheet) and could not run during the summer months due to lighting issues.

After inviting the Dalgarno councillors to attend the St. Quintin's Film Club and seeing the excellent afternoons hosted by the resident's association, City Living, Local Life was able to help grow the Film Club by providing funds to purchase a new

film screen, projector and blackout curtains for the room. Now the attendees of the Film Club can select from and enjoy an extensive collection all year round.

**“As councillors we are delighted to support the excellent St. Quintin’s Film Club which brings local people in retirement and sheltered housing together with the wider Dalgarno community to share memories and new experiences over classic films”**  
**Dalgarno Councillor Pat Healy**

The St. Quintin’s Film Club is always looking for classic DVD films to add to its collection, so if you have any you would like to donate please get in contact with City Living, Local Life at [locallife@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:locallife@rbkc.gov.uk)

**Borough wide:** Inspiring young people towards healthy eating

**“The programme proved an ideal partner to all we champion: combining a celebration of our rich make-up of diverse cultures within the local community, with our long-term commitment to freshly made, healthy and multi-cultural food at the school.” Paul Cotter, Fox Primary**



**Food Explorers at the Holland Park Ecology Centre**

The Food Explorers Community Interest Company has been running an educational programme for primary schools in Kensington and Chelsea that partners with local experts, raising awareness about food, how it is made and where it comes from. It has been working with schools across the borough with the support of City Living, Local Life for the past year to inspire children to get excited about eating, cooking and growing healthy food in school gardens.

Given the extreme cultural and economic diversity of the Royal Borough, its success has been to use the wealth of food and gardening experience available locally to educate and motivate children to make healthier food choices. The week long workshops are designed to improve long term eating habits and food education by exposing children to a wide range of fun, practical skills and local experiences and activities.

For example, the students participate in cooking lessons at Jamie Oliver's "Recipease", sample healthy fruit and vegetables on a tour of Whole Foods Market, learn about fish sustainability at George's Fisheries, find out how to read food labels and find hidden sugars with a Registered Dietician, and learn how food is grown through visits to local destinations such as the new Edible Teaching Garden in Holland Park.

The Food Explorers has worked extensively throughout the borough in schools such as Oxford Gardens, Thomas Jones, Fox Primary, and Ashburnham Community School. Soon Colville, Bevington, St. Mary Abbots and Barby Primary Schools will also take part in these workshops. At Oxford Gardens and Ashburnham Primary Schools edible teaching gardens were developed in 2014, and thanks to its partners at the Council's Environmental Team, the Food Explorers will be returning for a second Food Explorers Week in 2015 in addition to teacher training with community gardeners.

Other upcoming Food Explorers Projects include: a short film documenting the history of Portobello and Golborne Markets 150 years of food history through the research of local primary school children as well as an International Food Fair and fruit and vegetable treasure hunt for students involving four local primary schools.

**"We supported the Food Explorers because it's very important for children to learn how to grow and cook their food and how to eat healthily. The skills they learned with the Food Explorers will now be shared with their families as an invaluable resource for years to come" Notting Dale Councillor Judith Blakeman**

For more information, email Jenny Hewlett at [jenny@thefoodexplorers.co.uk](mailto:jenny@thefoodexplorers.co.uk) or visit [www.thefoodexplorers.co.uk](http://www.thefoodexplorers.co.uk)

**North Kensington wards:  
Helping local residents into work**

**"I have been a part of the IntoWork programme for a number of months, and have recently gained a role as a Supported Housing Assistant for Centre Point. They helped me search for roles, fill in applications as well as practice my interview skills. Thank you for all your help, I felt very supported by the centre and would recommend other residents to attend a one to one session as it makes a real difference" Beakal Debela, Notting Dale resident.**

Supporting people to overcome the barriers which may prevent them from achieving their aspirations, the IntoWork programme run by the ClementJames Centre offers both one-to-one and small group employment support, aiming to help residents re-enter the workplace or improve their skills towards this.

One-to-one sessions are held either at the ClementJames Centre, or within partner organisations around the Royal Borough, meeting once a week for as long as it takes to make that next step back into employment.

Over 6,800 local residents in North Kensington do not have any qualifications and many of the clients supported therefore are from some of the hardest-to-reach communities, face multiple challenges and barriers to employment or training, and have little or no confidence and low self-esteem. Support from City Living, Local Life in several wards (Dalgarno, Colville, Golborne, Notting Dale, and St. Helens) in the form of £13,500 of grants has meant that ClementJames can increase its team capacity to see more residents on a weekly basis. The work funded through City Living, Local Life has supported approximately 120 residents.

**“I have watched ClementJames Centre grow over the years from a homework club run by parents, to the national organisation we see today that helps people at different life stages. Golborne Ward Councillors are very happy to be able to support the excellent IntoWork programme by**

**ClementJames which provides vital and sometimes life-changing employment advice, mentoring and support to local residents. The number of wards and councillors who have pledged funding through City Living, Local Life only highlights the effectiveness of their work.”** **Golborne Councillor Emma Dent Coad**



ClementJames: 1:1 IntoWork Session

For more information, email Howard Taylor [howard@clementjames.org](mailto:howard@clementjames.org) or visit [www.clementjames.org](http://www.clementjames.org)

## Abingdon ward: Improving the local economy

### “We wanted to put Stratford Road Village Shops on the map... so we did” Sonita Kember, local business owner

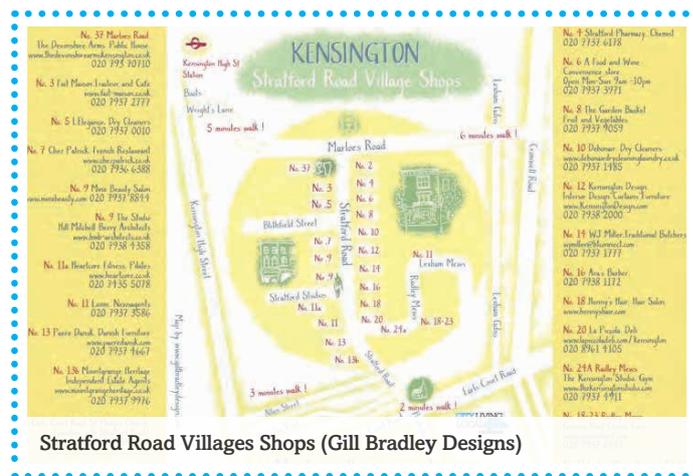
Owing to the pressures of the economic climate, there is often an increasing reliance and dependency on the High Street. Amid this shift comes a perceived pressure on smaller, independent shops to maintain their business. A stone’s throw from High Street Kensington lies Stratford Road, a parade of independent retailers who approached their ward councillors in an attempt to increase footfall to their ‘village’ of local shops.

City Living, Local Life awarded the group funding for advertising an illustrated map by a local designer that contained contact details of all the shops on Stratford Road. The map was featured in the winter and spring edition of the widely read Kensington Magazine and has allowed a brand to be developed to help increase awareness about Stratford Road. Funding was also awarded to advertise the Christmas Street Party in the winter edition, which also highlighted what was on offer on the road, from butchers to barbers to design studios and delis.

Beyond funding, Stratford Road has worked with City Living, Local Life on a variety of other ways to increase footfall including producing a **film** on their project negotiating with TfL and the West London and Fulham Road Legible London Scheme to install a ‘wayfinder’ sign pointing towards Stratford

Road Shops on High Street Kensington and establishing a business forum to enable shops to work closely together on improving footfall.

“We are delighted we were able to support the Stratford Road shopping area via City Living, Local Life. We hope that residents realise that Stratford Road is their local parade of independent shops and businesses and they will continue to support their local shops and businesses so that they can thrive. We are also pleased the funding has led to the determination to establish a small business forum to continue in their efforts to increase footfall”  
**Abingdon Councillor Victoria Borwick**



## Earl's Court and Redcliffe wards:

Remembering the war through theatre

**“Childhood Memories was about remembering; and it started when one resident in Earl’s Court, Daphne Morgan, spoke to Councillor Linda Wade about her childhood memories of World War II. This was how it all began, as how many things begin, with one person talking to another.”** Member of the Earl’s Court Community Trust

To help commemorate the centenary of the start of the First World War and the 70th anniversary of the D-Day landings, the Earl’s Court Community Trust produced a show called ‘Childhood Memories’.

‘Childhood Memories’ quickly grew with more local people recounting their experiences of war-time in Earl’s Court via interviews arranged by the Earl’s Court Trust and soon, with the help of St. Cuthbert’s Church, Finborough Theatre, the Chelsea Belles and the Earl’s Courtiers, included extracts from The Kite Runner and poetry and music from pupils at St. Cuthbert’s Primary School and Opera Holland Park. The interviews were part of the local schools’ educational programme and will soon be archived in Kensington’s Central Library.



Cast of ‘Childhood Memories’

The performance mapped the progression of the Second World War, from a child's perspective, from the first air-raid sirens, letters from the front, bombs falling on Brompton Cemetery, taking shelter in Earl's Court Underground Station to the celebrations on Victory in Europe Day.

Over 400 people attended the three free, sell-out City Living, Local Life supported performances with many more enjoying local artist Bob Barling's scenes of London during the war, exhibited during the run of 'Childhood Memories'. All donations made by attendees were donated to War Child and the British Legion Poppy Appeal

**“Childhood Memories is a fantastic example of the Earl's Court community coming together to celebrate the history of the area and lives of local people and something which we were incredibly happy to support through City Living, Local Life”**  
**Earl's Court Councillor Linda Wade**

For more information about Finborough Theatre, visit [www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk)



## Chelsea Riverside: Smartening up the World's End Piazza

**“It was a cold day but we rolled our sleeves up and created beautiful planters that made people smile as they walked past”** SMART centre member and resident

Amelia Mustapha of the SMART Centre says that “Often, the biggest hurdles facing anyone affected by mental ill-health are self-esteem and isolation. When someone walks through the door of SMART we believe in them, show them what they can do and let them know in no uncertain terms that they are amongst friends. It's as simple as that and it works.”

Everyone can benefit from a little greenery in their lives especially when local people can take part in these kinds of projects. Gardening can be particularly rewarding for those affected by mental ill-health or low self-esteem. Councillors in Chelsea Riverside were happy to support the SMART Centre with £500 to pay for gardening work on the World's End Estate. The City Living, Local Life funding meant that 12 members got to create and maintain planters for the local community to enjoy, gaining valuable skills and contributing to an area in which they live. The members are going to use the skills they gained as a SMART garden is set to feature at the **RHS Flower Show** in Hampton Court this summer 2015.

“We are delighted to be able to help brighten up the World’s End through City Living, Local Life by supporting the SMART Centre to continue their work in maintaining the planters. Their members do a fantastic job on the colourful displays”

**Chelsea Riverside Councillor Maighread Condon-Simmonds**

For more information about SMART centre, Contact Amelia Mustapha at [Amelia.Mustapha@smartlondon.org.uk](mailto:Amelia.Mustapha@smartlondon.org.uk) or visit [www.smartlondon.org.uk](http://www.smartlondon.org.uk)



SMART Centre planters



# Communicating local life



City Living, Local Life continues to offer a number of ways to highlight opportunities for residents to find out more about local life and get more involved in their community. We continue to invest in the dedicated website for the initiative with a number of support and resources.

## Lots of local information

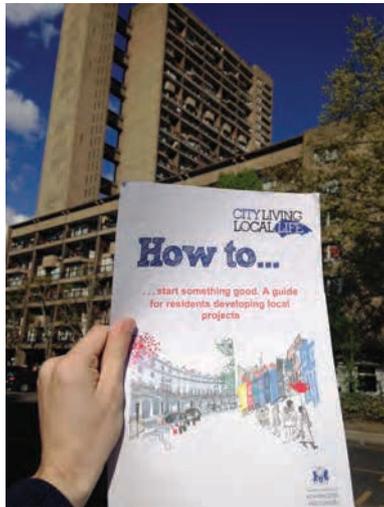
Residents can find out about the projects that have been supported across the borough, local information from the council, local news and details about community events. Dedicated ward pages have a map, a ward profile and links to other useful Council departments such as Planning and Consultations. You can view these pages by typing your postcode on the **homepage**, or clicking on the relevant ward on the map.

## Stories on the difference the initiative is making

You will also find on the website an **'About'** section, featuring page of case studies about the difference City Living, Local Life projects are making and how you can get involved, as well as links to previous Annual Reports.

## Practical guides and information

The website contains a number of **'Help and How Tos'** for residents to turn ideas into City Living, Local Life projects, to establishing a residents' association or holding a community event. Also on the website is a list of **local organisations** and their contact details and links to **community run websites** in the Royal Borough.



## A dedicated local newsletter and blog

Sign up to receive updates by **visiting our website**.

The **Community Noticeboard** blog, Twitter feed and monthly Cuppa e-newsletter, provides regular local news, opportunities and information as well as recent City Living, Local Life work.

This work has recently been supported by our growing network of community reporting, where residents contribute articles and report local stories. The opportunity to provide stories for City Living, Local Life has enabled residents to gain experience in community writing on public facing platforms and through promoting the best of the Royal Borough, they can provide a local voice and perspective.



# Out and about in the community

A key part of City Living, Local Life is about maintaining its visible presence across Kensington and Chelsea. This allows residents to hear more about the initiative, encourage new ideas, involve people in local life and grow ownership of local activities and projects. It also allows a means for councillors to hear more about local priorities and issues.

## Events

City Living, Local Life has taken part in over 25 community events this year including

The Golborne Festival

Chelsea Theatre

No Smoking Event

The Earl's Court Health and Wellbeing Fair

Project YOU

A total of 29 pop up stands were set up across the borough including

Portobello Road

World's End Piazza

The Thurloe Street

Residents Association

Street Party

Chelsea Library

Local supermarkets





These events and pop up stands offered residents an opportunity to hear about what goes on in their area, a chance to share ideas and how to get more involved.

City Living, Local Life has also held information stands promoting involvement in civic life as part of **Local Democracy Week** and encouraging people to register to vote, both key elements of community involvement.

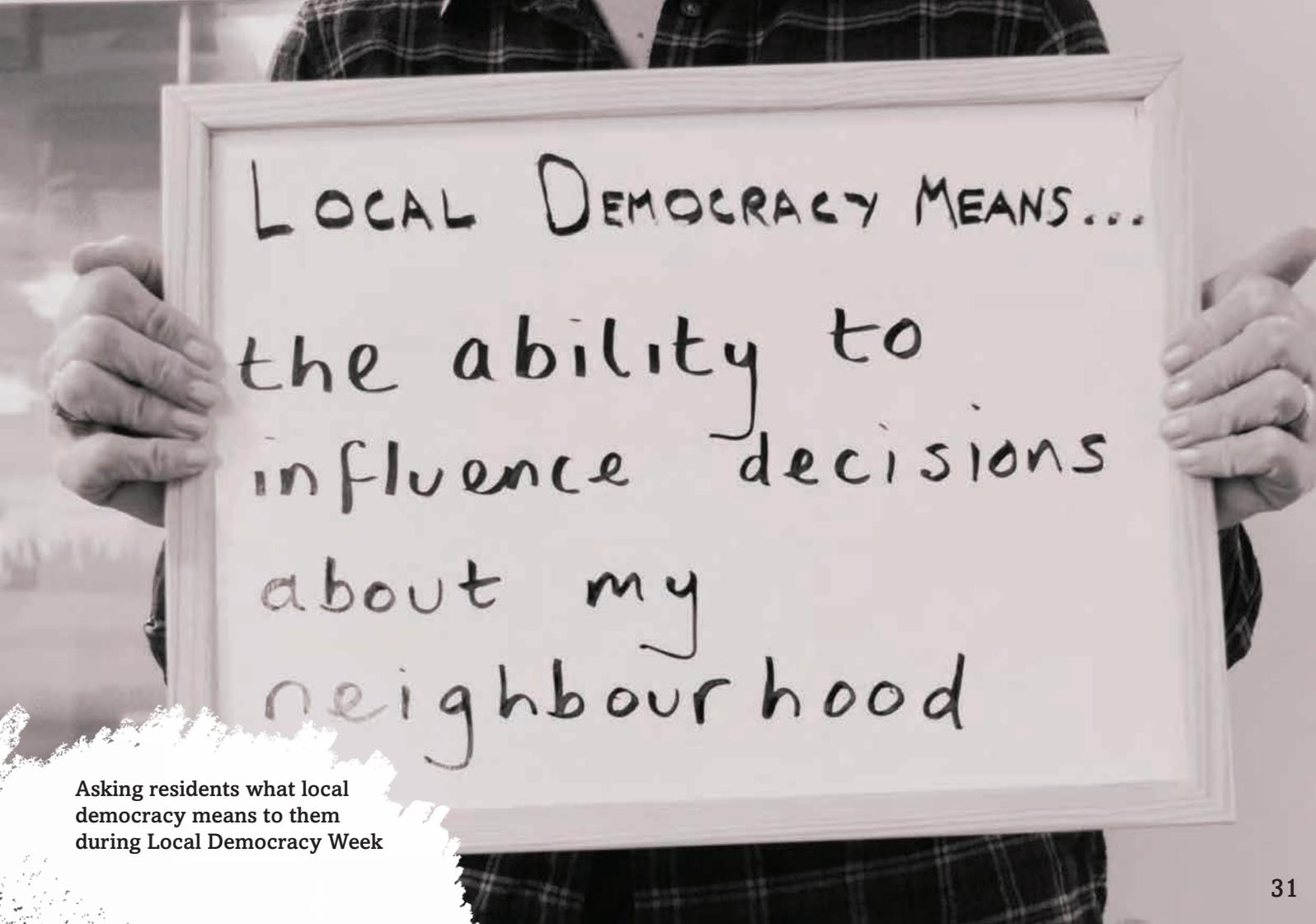
By attending these events, City Living, Local Life has engaged with over 700 residents in 2014/15, and also held weekly drop-in stations around the borough for residents to attend one-to-one meetings with officers.

## Champions

As City Living, Local Life works towards encouraging residents to take ownership of the initiative, work has begun to identify individuals in the borough to champion City Living, Local Life in their neighbourhoods, working in conjunction with Public Health Community Champions, active resident associations and voluntary organisations.





A black and white photograph of a person holding a large, white, rectangular sign with a double-line border. The sign has handwritten text in black ink. The person holding the sign is wearing a dark plaid shirt. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people and what appears to be an outdoor setting.

LOCAL DEMOCRACY MEANS...  
the ability to  
influence decisions  
about my  
neighbourhood

Asking residents what local  
democracy means to them  
during Local Democracy Week

# Looking ahead

With the help and cooperation of local residents and leadership from ward councillors, City Living, Local Life will grow even further, reaching a greater number of people whether it be through improvements that make a positive change to a local area, bringing together older and younger people or helping people learn something new to preserving local history.

City Living, Local Life can only grow in its success by harnessing the wealth of knowledge, expertise, passion and a genuine sense of giving that exists in Kensington and Chelsea. By bringing local people together through projects and activities, City Living, Local Life will aim to help build stronger connections between them – a connection that people can rely upon to help resolve local challenges and increase resilience.

As with previous years, transparency and accountability will remain a key feature of the initiative where decision making is robust, accountability is clear and information is publicly available. In addition, in 2015/16 City Living, Local Life will:

- continue to support ward councillors to work with local residents to deliver projects;
- increase the number of ways information reaches people, both online and offline;
- make it even easier for local people to get involved in delivering the initiative; and
- tap into the variety of sources of help that exist in Kensington and Chelsea so the funding that is available to local councillors goes even further.

City Living, Local Life will also continue to work with residents, community groups and local businesses to achieve its aims and work with them to realise its full potential.

# How can you get involved?

## 1. Sign up to Community Cuppa

By joining City Living, Local Life's monthly e-bulletin, you will be kept up to date with local news, information about events and updates on City Living, Local Life. Signing up is easy and can be done online at [www.citylivinglocallife.org](http://www.citylivinglocallife.org)

## 2. Suggest an idea

City Living, Local Life only succeeds with the ideas, talents and knowledge of local people. If you have a suggestion or an idea, no matter what size or ambition, we would love to hear from you. To submit an idea for consideration in your local area, drop us a line at [locallife@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:locallife@rbkc.gov.uk) or contact your local ward councillors (information about local areas and the councillors that serve them is on [www.citylivinglocallife.org](http://www.citylivinglocallife.org))

## 3. Become a champion

We are always looking for residents to help us get the message out about City Living, Local Life and how it can make life better across the Royal Borough. We are busy developing a network of 'community reporters' to write about local issues and events, and 'champions' to promote the initiative to community groups. If you are interested in finding out more about these opportunities, get in touch with us.

## 4. Submit a project

If you have specific proposals or a project suggestion for City Living, Local Life then we encourage you to submit a ward budget application – you can find this on the [website](#). If you have not done so already, we suggest you talk through your ideas with others and sound out councillors for the ward you are applying for first. When you are ready to submit the proposal, visit our website to share the project.

## 5. Join your local community group

There are lots of voluntary and community groups in the Royal Borough from residents' groups to organisations run by volunteers and registered charities. By getting involved, you can have an increased sense of belonging, meet new people and help make a difference. For information about our Team K&C initiative or how you can join a local group contact us. If you are interested in volunteering opportunities then Team Kensington and Chelsea is your first point of call:

[www.rbkc.gov.uk/volunteer](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/volunteer)

**And if you are already participating in City Living, Local Life, why not share the above opportunities with others to encourage more local people to get involved.**

# Thank you

We would like to thank all of the groups and organisations who shared ideas and started something good in Kensington and Chelsea through the initiative this year, as well as organisations who supported the development of local projects. For a complete list of funded groups you can also visit the financial ward spend on the [City Living, Local Life website](#).

1. Age UK Kensington and Chelsea
2. Chelsea Court Tenants Association
3. Chelsea Theatre
4. Chelsea Youth Club
5. Children and Parents Carnival Association
6. Christ Church Kensington
7. Colville Community History Project
8. Corner Nine Arts Project
9. Creek House and Counters Court Residents Association
10. Dalgarno Neighbourhood Trust
11. digital:works
12. Earl's Court Community Trust
13. EPIC CIC
14. Farm the City London
15. Friends of Brompton Cemetery
16. Golborne Forum
17. Henry Dickens Garden Club
18. Holland Park Surgery
19. Just Sew
20. Kensington and Chelsea Forum for Older Residents
21. Kensington Aldridge Academy
22. Kensington and Chelsea Foundation
23. Kensington High Street Business Forum
24. Kings Road Christmas
25. Kingsdale Gardens
26. Latymer Christian Centre
27. London Film Foundation
28. Love Golborne
29. Making Communities Work & Grow
30. New Studio Pre-School
31. North Kensington Women's Textile Workshop
32. Open Age
33. Opera Holland Park Friends
34. Pembridge Road Association
35. Portobello and Golborne Management Committee
36. Portobello Dance School
37. Portobello Land
38. Quadron Services
39. Rosemead Garden Committee
40. Silchester Residents Association
41. Sir Thomas More Residents Association
42. SMART Centre
43. S.P.I.D. Theatre Company LTD
44. St. Charles Community Garden Club
45. St. Francis Community Church
46. St. John's Church, Worlds End
47. St. Clement and St. James Primary School
48. St. Cuthbert with St. Matthias Church
49. St. George's Church
50. St. Quintin Park Residents Association
51. Tabernacle School
52. The ClementJames Centre
53. The Clever Baggers
54. The Earl's Court Drama Workshop
55. The Food Explorers CIC
56. The Gate Theatre
57. The Kensington Magazine LTD
58. The Knightsbridge Association
59. The Royal Parks
60. The Salvation Army
61. Thomas Jones Primary School
62. Trellick Tower Residents' Association
63. Victoria and Albert Museum
64. Whitchurch House Residents Association
65. World's End Over 50s Social Club

Thank you to digital:works for the front cover depicting its local history project.



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LOCAL LIFE

CITY LIVING  
LOCAL LIFE

For further information about City Living,  
Local Life or our other projects and activities:

Write to us: **Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea,**  
**Community Engagement Team, Town Hall, Hornton Street, W8 7NX**  
Call us: **020 7598 4633** Email us: **locallife@rbkc.gov.uk**  
Visit us: **citylivinglocallife.org** Follow us: **@KClocallife**



## Questions?

**Need this guide in another format?**

Contact the Community Engagement Team on **020 7598 4633**  
or **locallife@rbkc.gov.uk**



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF  
KENSINGTON  
AND CHELSEA