

exhibition road newsletter

Issue 11:
January 2011

Keeping you informed

South Kensington today and tomorrow

Do you remember what South Kensington was like before the new road layout? Do you remember the crowded pavements and standing in the road waiting for a bus?

Now we are used to the new transformed area it's sometimes hard to remember how it was before – so here's a reminder.



Of course there's still more to be done; there's the paving at the southern end of Exhibition Road, the installation of new lighting, trees and cycle racks as well as the remaining snagging in the paved areas but it's certainly a lot better than it was.

We took onboard your views when you told us that you wanted the two new paved areas to remain spacious and uncluttered with more trees and no seating and have designed an elegant layout for the new paved square outside the station that includes seven new trees and more cycle parking.

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THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
**KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA**



Bad weather doesn't stop our site team – some worked in tents, others just got wet

New programme

The work on Exhibition Road is going well and we are still on track to finish the project this year in plenty of time for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. However, we have had to modify our programme to fit in with other unplanned work in the area. In next month's newsletter we will bring you the new paving schedule.



A face on the street

Percy (seated) and Seamus have both been working on the Exhibition Road project from the very beginning. Together they make up the Welsh contingent of the Balfour Beatty team. Percy is a Working Foreman responsible for constructing the southern section of the work, including Cromwell Road and everything south of it. He directs the labour force and machinery on site as well as liaising with local shops and businesses. Seamus is his right hand man as well as laying drainage and brickwork. They are currently both busy working night shifts on Cromwell Road removing the existing paving ready for the new paving the dayshift team will put down. This round the clock operation ensures that the work is completed as quick as possible after the National Grid replacement work that prevented our access to the area last year.

Traffic management now

National Grid finished their work on the gas main in Cromwell Road just before Christmas. We have taken over the site and are currently rebuilding the pavements and road surface. When it's finished there will be a new wider pedestrian crossing that will ease pedestrian congestion at this busy junction. We expect the work to take about five months so we will put in a temporary crossing across Cromwell Road by early February. The A4 is a major route so we have to do some of the work at night when traffic is at its quietest.

Traffic is now running on the eastern side of Exhibition Road between Kensington Road and Prince Consort Road and we have started work on the western side of the road.

We have banned southbound traffic from most of Exhibition Road, except for access. We are diverting traffic to Queen's Gate via Prince Consort Road. This allows us to provide more residents' parking and gives us more room to work. Although we know it is a minor inconvenience to drivers who are unfamiliar with the alternative routes, most residents and regular users are coping well.

This newsletter is delivered to all homes, businesses and organisations in the Exhibition Road area. Every month we will let you know how the project is progressing, as well as introducing you to some of the people and the work they are carrying out on this £25 million project.



MAYOR OF LONDON

City of Westminster