

Keeping you informed

Seating in South Kensington



Last year we asked what you wanted to see in South Kensington, and a significant number of you told us that you didn't want any benches or other types of seating because of the problems you

used to have with vagrants and drunks. Now that the area is very nearly finished, a number of residents have asked us to put in benches because visitors are sitting on the pavement or office steps, and elderly residents and visitors have nowhere to rest. Some of the local restaurants and cafes may have some outdoor seating for their customers, but it won't be available for everyone to use.

We are happy to reconsider our decision, but we'd like to hear from you about what you think.

Benches or no benches in Thurloe Street? and if so, where?

Send us your views by 29 July 2011 by email to exhibitionroad@rbkc.gov.uk or write to Shirley Long, The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Room 114, Council Offices, 37 Pembroke Road, London, W8 6PW.

We look forward to hearing from you.

exhibitionroad@rbkc.gov.uk
Shirley Long – 020 7361 3238
www.rbkc.gov.uk/exhibitionroad
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Nearly finished – the works will soon be over

South Kensington open

The southern end of Exhibition Road and Thurloe Street will be finished by the end of June. The new street lights will be working and the eight new planters brimming with flora. We will thoroughly clean the area and jet wash the granite so it will be sparkling and ready for summer. We know it has taken a long time and many of you have been inconvenienced by the disruption and noise of the works. We thank you for your patience and hope you enjoy your new look South Kensington.



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
**KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA**

Scheme shortlisted

The Exhibition Road project has been shortlisted for its first award. The prestigious New London Awards recognise the capital's best projects that contribute to the urban environment through design excellence, respect of local context, and innovative use of resources in their construction, maintenance and proposed lifespan.

Entries will be judged by a panel of international experts in the fields of architecture and urban design and the results will be published on 12 July 2011.

Images of all the shortlisted schemes will be available for public viewing at a 12-month exhibition at NLA, The Building Centre, 26 Store Street, London WC1E 7BT. See www.newlondonarchitecture.org/newlondonawards for more details.

What's on

Every year the organisations and institutions in the Exhibition Road area provide a rich mixture of entertainment enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. Here are some of the highlights this summer:

The **Natural History Museum** is home to two major exhibitions: **Sexual Nature** (until 2 October) and **Age of the Dinosaur**, with moving animatronic dinosaurs (until 4 September). Something to delight both adults and children here.

Until 17 July you can still see the marvellous **The Cult of Beauty** at the **V&A**. An exhibition charting the development of the Aesthetic Movement in art and design from the 1860s to the 1890s. The exhibition includes paintings, prints and drawings, as well as portraits, fashionable dress and jewellery.

The world greatest classical music festival – **The Proms** starts on 15 July and runs until 10 September at the **Royal Albert Hall**.

The Serpentine Gallery Pavilion 2011 is designed by Peter Zumthor this year and opens on 1 July until 16 October. This year's Pavilion is based on the hortus conclusus; a contemplative room; a garden within a garden. It includes a specially created garden by the influential Dutch designer Piet Oudolf.

The Nomad Cinema invites you to outdoor screenings of cinema classics and cult favourites set under the stars in **Kensington Gardens** on 15, 16 and 17 July.

Hyde Park hosts the **Wireless Festival** on 1, 2 and 3 July with headline acts Black Eyed Peas, Chemical Brothers and Pulp.

More details of events and happenings in the area can be found at the Exhibition Road Cultural Group's website www.exhibitionroad.com

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.



A face on the street

This is Oliver Barker who is the Deputy Project Supervisor on the Exhibition Road Project. Oliver's job is to help make sure the works run smoothly, keep to time and that the workmanship is of the highest quality. He answers technical queries from the contractors, assists members of the public, considers traffic management issues and liaises with utility companies to arrange for their works to be carried out without upsetting our programme – not always an easy task!

Oliver has worked for the Royal Borough for six years and was previously in the Highways Maintenance Department. He is very proud to be working on such an innovative scheme and knows that the knowledge he has gained will help him in future projects. Oliver describes the finished scheme as "showing off London's cultural assets with a fantastic backdrop".

