The Brickworks Newsletter



December 2022

Number 15

The cost of living has been a major concern over the past couple of months and is likely to become even more of a worry as we get into the New Year.

In October, Brickworks held a drop-in offering advice on health, nutrition, energy and finance. A few weeks later, a similar session at Caxton House attracted 140 visitors, while on November 29, we hosted a community event set up by Bright Futures, which supports families facing problems with child behaviour, school attendance and home finance.

The organisations taking part included:

Age UK Islington, which offers a range of support services to anyone over 16. On Dec 21, they'll be holding a festive Let's Talk peer event, sharing ideas, problems and solutions – book on 020 7281 6018.

Bright Start Islington offers a weekly timetable of services for under-fives and their families. These include health visits, family support surgeries, stay and plays and much more besides. Contact: fis@islington.gov.uk or 020 7527 5959.

For financial advice, check out Islington Council's *Worrying about Money*? leaflet, which lists organisations and contacts. Try reception for copies - or go to www.worryingaboutmoney.co.uk/islington. Also worth a look: Islington Law Centre's *Help and Support with the Cost of Living* booklet.

Further advice is available at Andover Community Centre's Cost of Living Day (December 8 from 1 to 4pm); and on the Debt Bus, which will be outside Brickworks on December 21 and 22.

As mentioned in our November newsletter, Brickworks is one of Islington's Warm Community Spaces. On Wednesdays between 11am and 2pm we'll be offering hot soup and energising yoga work-outs. We'll be open at other times, of course, so feel free to come along. We'll also be putting together warm winter packages of hot water bottles, socks and other items for vulnerable local residents. If you know if anyone who'd appreciate this, please pass their names on.

The Weekenders will be having their Christmas party on December 16 from 12.30pm. It's free of charge, but please let us know if you are coming.

Brickworks Community Centre 42 Crouch Hill, N4 4BY www.hanleycrouch.org.uk| 020 7263 1067 | admin@hanleycrouch.org.uk

The Brickworks Newsletter



Hanley Crouch Community Association is 50 years old. We'll be celebrating in the new year and launching a new group, Friends of Brickworks, as a way of attracting people with energy, enthusiasm and ideas to help us with our work. You might like to do a couple of hours a week volunteering or maybe setting up a group or organising an activity. If that's you, please get in touch.

We'll be launching the scheme at our forthcoming annual general meeting.

Good news from Brickworks regular Agy Lukaides. His first book, *CIU Children's Intelligence Unit Saves London* featuring Monster Mike, which we featured in our June issue, has been dramatised for radio, with actors and music, and will be broadcast on London Greek Radio in the week before Christmas. It will also be aired in Cyprus, Greece, the USA, Australia and Canada. There is also talk of an animation. Bravo!

Do you have an unused laptop or iPad? Please bring them in – along with any unwanted clothes or items for the foodbank. All donations will be much appreciated.

Christmas is a busy time at St Mary Hornsey Rise, in Ashley Road. Their festive programme includes a Christmas fair (Dec 17, 12-4pm); candle-lit carol service (Dec 18, 6.30pm); midnight communion (Dec 24, 11.30pm); and Christmas Day service (Dec 25, 10.15am). Stmaryshornseyrise.org.uk; contact@smhr.or.uk

Looking for a new start in the new year? iWORK supports people over 18 looking for jobs and training, everything from construction and apprenticeships to IT and setting up a business: contact 020 7527 3312.

Smart Works: helps women back into work with career coaching, interview preparation and coaching – and a capsule collection of suitable clothes. www.smartworks.org.uk; 0207 288 1770.

Bright Lives Wellbeing Coaching Service offers up to six months of coaching for adults facing social isolation, depression, bereavement or other problems. Email BrightLivesCoaching@islington.gov.uk for referral details.

Awesome! Adventure Play offers a taste of adventure for children aged six to 13. The organisation has six playgrounds offering free outdoor fun and activity – a great start to the new year.... Awesomeadventureplay.org; 020 3875 7415.

Brickworks will be closed from December 23-27; open Dec 28-29; closed Dec 30-January 03 and open back as usual from 04 Jan .

A Happy Christmas to all our readers.

Brickworks Community Centre 42 Crouch Hill, N4 4BY www.hanleycrouch.org.uk| 020 7263 1067 | admin@hanleycrouch.org.uk