



Fair Community Housing

Newsletter

Spring
2022

Message from the Chair

I am delighted to introduce this latest issue of our newsletter. As usual, it's packed with useful information for Fair Community Residents.

Inside you can discover how we are working to make your estates cleaner and safer and also find out about upcoming local events and activities.

If you're struggling to make ends meet, make sure you read the article inside about different grants and support available.

I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Jubilee celebration on Sunday 5 June on Potters Field. You'll need to register with the TMO office before the event to make sure you receive a wristband that will entitle you to free food and drinks on the day. It promises to be a fantastic event to bring our whole community together so please come along and join in the fun – see page 3 for details.

Finally, as a Tenant Management Organisation, Fair Community is run for tenants by tenants, and we want to hear from you so please let us know if you have any suggestions for our next issue of the newsletter. And remember, now we are no longer printing the newsletter, we need your email address so we can send a copy to your inbox. If you haven't done so already please let the Estate office know your email and contact details to ensure you don't miss out on future issues and the latest news.

Patricia Strobino
Chair of Fair Community
Housing Services

Inside

FREE family
fun day to
celebrate The
Queen's Jubilee

Helping to
keep your
neighbourhood
safe and clean

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safety

Money
advice



Free, fun activities for the whole family to join in!

Family event to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Sunday 5th June

We are teaming up with Shad Thames to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with a special FREE community event this summer on Potters Field. Please come along and join in the fun on Sunday 5th June where there will be a band stand with music, food and drink – all completely free of charge. There will also be free events run by Team London Bridge for children and a Hip Hop Festival all weekend in the Scoop.

You'll need to register for this event in advance so that we can give you a wristband to receive free refreshments on the day. Please book your free wristband in our TMO Estate office at Fair Street, SE1 2XA, as soon as possible.



Christmas lunch success

Christmas may be a distant memory now, but as you can see in the photos below, our festive lunch at The Hilton Hotel back in December was enjoyed by many. We were delighted to treat our senior residents to a three course lunch as our way of saying Happy Christmas. The meal was funded by a grant from Southwark Council.



Fair Community Fun Day - Date for your diary!

Saturday 6th August

We are planning a community celebration to take place on Saturday 6th August in St Johns Church Yard. It will be a fun event for all Fair Community Housing residents to join in. Look out for more information on the event soon. If you would like to get involved in helping to plan or run the event please pop into the TMO Estate office in Fair Street to register your interest.



Activities for young people

Did you know that The Salmon Youth Centre in Bermondsey offers a range of year-round activities for children and young people to learn new skills and make new friends?

The weekly programme includes dance, art, basketball, climbing, taikwondo, football, music, gym and lots more. Sessions cost just 50p and a hot meal is served between 4pm and 5pm each day.



the salmon youth centre
in Bermondsey 

Keeping our estates clean and safe

Mice

Mice and rats can be a problem in inner cities so it is important we all work together to keep our estates clean and safe. Please follow the advice on this page about disposing of rubbish properly so as not to attract vermin. If you do have any problems with mice or other pests please report this to Southwark Council on their webpage; www.southwark.gov.uk/pest-control/reporting-a-pest-problem

As a tenant of Fair Community TMO you will not be charged for the pest control service.

Please note, that pest control officers often need to treat the whole block in order to tackle a mouse problem effectively, so if asked, please allow them access to your property (even if you haven't seen any mice in your home).

Fly tipping

Dumping large items by bins or chutes (or anywhere on our estates) is fly tipping, and it's illegal! If you have large household items to get rid of you can arrange a collection from the council, simply visit www.southwark.gov.uk/bins-and-recycling/bulky-waste-collections for details. Or why not recycle these items to be loved, re-used or repaired by someone else by posting them on www.freecycle.org

Don't dump rubbish

Please don't leave bags of rubbish outside your home as this is a fire hazard as well as a contributing factor to the mice problem, and it smells and looks terrible! Make sure your recycling isn't left outside your front door for days on end – only put it out on collection day.

And if you're a smoker please do not smoke outside other residents' properties, or throw your cigarette butts over balconies. Always ensure your cigarette end is stubbed out and disposed of properly.



Stay Safe

Unfortunately one of our residents has been the victim of burglary whilst at home, so we want to take this opportunity to remind everyone about the importance of home security.

-  **Never let anyone into the block unless you know them or they are expected. Always ask who they are and do not buzz them in unless you are sure.**
-  **Always make sure the block entrance door is closed after you.**
-  **If the block entry door is not working please report it to Southwark Council at www.southwark.gov.uk/housing/repairs/report-a-communal-repair or get in touch with us at the TMO office (our contact details are on the back cover)**
-  **If you see any antisocial behaviour contact the TMO office, and if it's an emergency situation or someone is acting suspiciously call 999.**



All of these resources can be used by anyone feeling unsafe.

Women's safety

Following a very interesting talk on Women's Safety that was organised by Shad Thames Residents Association on International Women's Day in March, here is some useful advice:



- If you are on TFL tube or bus and feel threatened or unsafe call **0343 222 1234**.
- If you are feeling unsafe, vulnerable or threatened you can go to any pub, club or licensed premises and ask for **Angela**. Staff will know how to help you and keep you safe. Visit www.met.police.uk/AskforAngela for more details.
- The police have launched a new online tool called **StreetSafe** where you can report locations where you feel or have felt unsafe, eg because of poor street lighting, abandoned buildings, vandalism or antisocial behaviour. Feedback gathered from www.streetsafetool.com will help inform where police officers need to be more prominent to help increase community safety.

Southwark walk and talk

If you would like to meet a female police officer to walk around the local area to discuss women's safety in the community you can book a 'walk and talk' <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/walk-talk-with-your-local-police-officer-southwark-tickets-265780816577>

How we performed

January to March 2022



Number of repairs completed

174



Percentage of repairs completed right first time

97.1%



Satisfaction with repairs

100%



Percentage of rent collected

105.3%



Percentage of complaints dealt with in 15 days

100%



Percentage of estate inspections completed

100%



Struggling to buy food?

If you are struggling to make ends meet, the North Southwark Community Larder can help.

For £5 you can get 15 items including: fresh fruit & veg, dairy, meat, cereals, coffee, tea, tins, and more. The food pantry is open to everyone, not just those on benefits.

It is now located in new premises at Gataker House on the Slippers Place Estate, (just off Southwark Park Road, close to Kirby Estate). Find out more about how you can access the pantry, or to volunteer with this important community project at <https://lovenorthsouthwark.org/>

Worried about energy bills?

The rising cost of energy is worrying for lots of people, but did you know that Citizens Advice Southwark offers help and advice on how to manage your energy bills and keep your home warm?

Get in touch to receive free and impartial advice, support and assistance with:

- Energy Advice
- Grant applications and debt advice
- Fuel vouchers
- Warm home discount
- Priority service register
- Energy saving measures
- Switching your energy supplier or tariff

Simply give them a call on 080 8278 7849
or visit www.citizensadvicesouthwark.org.uk



Don't worry be 'appy!

There are so many different apps to download but which ones are useful?
Our Board members share their top tips:



Too Good To Go

Free app which allows you to purchase unsold food from top eateries at the end of service to prevent it from being thrown away. This means you get high-quality food from your favourite restaurants at a great price, and also do some good for the planet.



Nextdoor

An app for neighborhoods where you can get local tips, buy and sell items, access local information, free stuff and groups and much more.

Do you have any suggestions for apps that you could recommend to our readers?
Please let us know and we can give them a mention in our next newsletter.

We want to hear from you

This is your newsletter so we want to know your ideas on what you would like to see included in our next issue. Please get in touch if there is a particular issue you want highlighted, or if you are part of a local group or organising an event that we could help to promote.

Get in touch using the contact details below or pop into the Estate office in Fair Street.

Don't forget to register for a wrist band so you can enjoy free food and a couple of drinks at the Jubilee event on Sunday 5th June.

Would you like to observe a Board meeting?

Local residents are invited to sit in on our regular Board meetings, but please let us know in advance as we can only accommodate one observer at a time due to lack of space. If you're interested simply get in touch using the contact details below.

Get in touch

Got an idea for an article for our next newsletter or a suggestion on how we can improve the local area?

• Fair Community Housing Services
• Horselydown Offices
• 2 Fair Street
• London
• SE1 2XA

• Call us on: 020 7378 0547

• Email: faircommunity@southwark.gov.uk

• Visit our website: www.fairhousing.org.uk